Sandwell
CHRONICLE

Thursday, June 23, 2016 | Read by more than 68,000 people | Price when sold 60p

Cabbie penalised for charging double after losing way

LOST TAXI DRIVER ENDS UP IN COURT

Report by Judith Hawkins

A LOST taxi driver took a passenger wanting to travel on a four-mile journey in the Black Country on a detour to Birmingham – costing him twice the fare, a court heard.

On December 9, Talbraiz Ali, aged 35, was asked by his customer to go from Cape Hill in Smethwick to Sandwell and Dudley railway station.

But instead, Ali, who was working for 247 Cars and had only been a taxi driver for 28 days, took the passenger to Harborne and then charged £15 for the trip – over double an expected fare of £7.

Ali, of Minstead Road, Erdington, pleaded guilty to a charge of 'unnecessary prolonging of a journey by hackney carriage' at Sandwell Magistrates Court on Tuesday.

Prosecuting on behalf of Sandwell Council, Mr David Elliot explained that a man called for a taxi from 247 Cars from the McDonald's at Cape Hill, Smethwick, which arrived driven by Ali five minutes later.

Diversion

Asking to be taken to Sandwell and Dudley Railway Station the passenger was surprised when instead of turning right as expected Ali turned left towards Birmingham instead. "He asked the driver where he was going, who said that he wanted to avoid the traffic. The passenger asked him to turn around, and he took a right," said Mr Elliot.

However Ali proceeded to take more and more of a diversion. Eventually the taxi driver succeeded in getting to the railway station, and the passenger was charged £15 for the trip. The passenger noted that there was no sat nav.

The court was told that Ali had only started driving a taxi in Sandwell in November 2015. Mr Elliot added that it would be up to the council's licensing committee to determine to what extent they would penalise Ali.

Representing Ali, Michael Wooldridge said: "This is an unfortunate matter, and so odd that it defies any logical explanation." Mr Wooldridge stressed that this was his second job, with his main employment being at a factory. He added that the defendant is married with two young children.

Mr Wooldridge added: "It is not a case where he has deliberately gone around the houses."

The defence solicitor highlighted that Ali had limited English, and that this added to the problems. Ali received a conditional discharge lasting 12 months, and was also ordered to pay costs of £250 and a victim surcharge of £15.

AWARDS SUCCESS FOR DEDICATED CARER TEAM

Nathan Buckley, far right, with other dedicated staff from Parkside in Tipton dressing for the occasion after winning in the carer's awards

DEDICATED carers from a care home in Sandwell had their hard-work recognised at a regional event.

Staff from Parkside Care Home, in Tibbington Terrace, Tipton, scooped awards in six of the categories on offer at the carers awards ceremony held at the Village Hotel in Dudley earlier this month. Nathan Buckley, aged 21, who has worked at the home for two years, won the achievement award.

He said: "It felt fantastic to be recognised but the main part is that I love my job and being able to help others. It was a smart casual event with drinks and a meal and then the director read out the awards for us. It was a bit of a shock to win in six of the categories as homes from around the Midlands were there but it shows how hard we all work."

Susan Childs won in the inspiration category, Neeru Kainth won motivation, Kevin Handley won nurturing and the activities and domestic teams won Excellence and Dedication awards. Mr Buckley, from Tipton, added: "We even had a celebration for the residents at the home last Friday to show them how much they mean to us. We had a singer and food and deputy mayor Susan Downing paid us a visit – it was a great afternoon.

"Since we have won the residents have been coming up and congratulating us and saying well done. It makes it all worth while then."

Parkside Care Home specialises in the care of adults from mixed age ranges with mental health and behavioural needs. The home has 20 en-suite bedrooms which are over two floors with an additional spacious lounge, quiet lounge and dining room areas. There are also two large bathrooms with sensory lighting and music.

HEIRLOOM

Family's shock at rare Chinese vase

THE owners of a vase used as a doorstop at a home in the Black Country have been shocked to discover the rare item could sell for up to £1 million at auction.

The family, who wish to remain anonymous, inherited the vase from their Great Aunt Flossie, who lived in Cornwall in the 1920s. It is now believed to be a rare Chinese vase dating from the 18th century.

They had used the vase as a doorstop, with their grandchild running around the house – miraculously not damaging it. Only once it was valued by Hansons Auctioneers & Valuers did they realise its worth and it is up for auction on July 1 at Hansons, Heage Lane in Etwall, Derby. "It's the find of a lifetime," said auctioneer Charles Hanson.

COUNCIL

Roundabouts bid for ad hoardings

ADVERTISING boards will go up at almost 30 roundabouts across the Sandwell borough under plans by bosses to protect council-run services.

A total of 27 prominent roundabouts will bear the name of businesses under the proposal by Sandwell Council.

Planning applications have been submitted for the signage at the junctions.

They include Navigation Roundabout on the Black Country New Road in Tipton, Patent Shaft Roundabout on the Black Country New Road in Wednesbury and Kelvin Way Roundabout.

COMMUNITY

Help for refugees at a stroke with scheme

THE Brushstrokes Community Project which supports vulnerable refugees in Sandwell and West Birmingham, has won funding from the Heart of England's New Beginnings fund.

The money will provide a new information and guidance service, called the New Hope Project, which will give advice to vulnerable refugees, asylum seekers, migrants and trafficked women. People will be able to seek advice on a wide range of topics, including health, education and employment. The service will also put people in touch with other specialist services for additional help.

Visit www.brushstrokessandwell.org.uk.

INSIDE

BACK FESTIVAL? YES, WE KHAN

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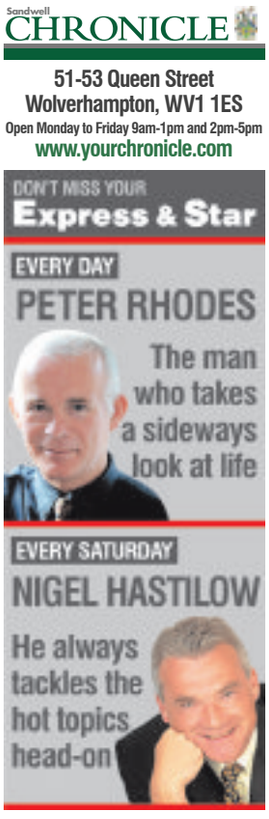

In the pink for a strawberry moon

Monday's strawberry moon

A RARE phenomenon took place this week as a strawberry moon shone during the summer solstice for the first time in half a century. It earns its name because of the amber glow it gives at this time of year, due to light having to pass through thicker and warmer air.

The sight of a strawberry moon has long been marked by early Native American tribes as a symbol for the start of the strawberry picking season.

On Monday night it was the first time a strawberry moon has coincided with the solstice since 1967. Scores of pictures were taken showing the gleaming moon with its pinkish tint shining over Britain. The summer solstice is the longest day of the year and earns the name from the Latin word solstitium', which means 'sun standing still'.

The event is celebrated every year by people across the globe, with a popular location being Stonehenge in Wiltshire.

It falls each year around late June where there are approximately 17 hours of sun light. This year it fell on June 20.

The summer solstice this year saw the sun rise at 4.45am and not set until 10.34pm. Thousands of people take to the ancient stones in the English countryside to celebrate the occasion brining people from across the world.

Alongside the name of strawberry moon, other terms coined for the rare occurrence include the honey moon, hot moon and rose moon, in the northern hemisphere, and the long night moon in the southern hemisphere.

It won't be until 2062 when the next strawberry moon will fall on the same day as the summer solstice. It was the Algonquin tribes in North America who believed the arrival of the strawberry moon marked the start of the strawberry picking season.

Rottweilers attacked woman, 82, in street

A WOMAN whose two rottweilers bit chunks out of an 82-year-old grandmother in a horrific attack, has admitted being the owner of dogs dangerously out of control.

Pensioner Margaret Langford was set upon by the two dogs as she walked down Ivy Road in Tipton on May 18.

They tore at her body while she lay defenceless face down on the ground. She was taken to Russells Hall Hospital where she received treatment for a succession of injuries to her right arm, buttocks, left leg, chest and back. A chunk was ripped out from her right forearm, and a bite to her hip has resulted in mobility difficulties.

Appearing before Sandwell Magistrates Court on Tuesday, the owner of the dogs, 47-year-old Marie Jane Parker of Ivy Road, Tipton, was in tears as she entered her guilty plea. Prosecutor Mr Roger Blezard outlined how at 1.30pm the victim was walking down Ivy Road when she heard growling.

Screaming

"Then two huge rottweilers jumped out, forcing her to the pavement. They proceeded to bite her, and she was screaming," he said. Mr Blezard added that they would be looking for further details from police specialists regarding the two dogs, which have been with the force since the incident, in order to determine whether or not they would need to be destroyed.

Mrs Helen Pinning, defending, highlighted how sorry Parker was. "It is clear that it has caused a great deal of upset. My client is very close to the dogs," said Mrs Pinning. "As seen in her interview, she feels very bad about how it has affected the health of the victim. She wanted to take flowers to her, but was told by police that she couldn't contact the victim as this would amount to witness intimidation. She is very sorry for what happened."

Mrs Langford's family said the savage attack has left her emotionally traumatised.

Due to the need for a pre-sentence report, as well as further details of the injuries Mrs Langford sustained and a report by police on the dogs, Parker's case has been adjourned for sentencing until July 12. In the meantime Parker remains on unconditional bail, and the fate of the dogs is still to be decided.

Store Luke's to help focus on Astle

Jeff Astle's wife, Laraine and daughter, Dawn, with Carl Barratt at the Luke menswear store in Merry Hill

A MENSWEAR store is joining the campaign led by the daughter of West Brom legend Jeff Astle, raising awareness of the long-term impact of footballers' head injuries.

Dawn Astle has expressed her delight that Luke 1977, which has outlets in the Merry Hill and Bullring shopping centres, will be raising money for The Jeff Astle Foundation.

The foundation was set up after a neuro-surgeon determined that her father had died of chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), otherwise known as boxer's brain. This has led to extensive research to identify whether his fatal condition was the result of repeatedly heading heavy footballs.

To support the ongoing campaign, throughout the duration of the UEFA Euro 2016 competition, Luke 1977's shops will be taking donations for the foundation from customers. Head of sales at Luke 1977, Carl Barratt, explained that as West Brom fan himself he had heard of the Justice for Jeff campaign. Thrilled to see the launch of the fundraising at the Merry Hill store, Dawn said: "It is incredible and we were taken aback when we heard they wanted to help us. We encourage everyone to come into the store and see what's on offer. "

Dawn added that a recent meeting with the FA had also led her to feel more optimistic about the campaign. "There is still a long way to go, but I left the meeting last week thinking that here is someone we can work with," she said.

For more information, go to www.thejeffastlefoundation.co.uk

Bonanza of summer fun on way at the valley

AN overnight camp, beach volleyball and a strongest man contest are part of a month-long summer programme of activities planned for Sandwell Valley Country Park in August.

Summer in the Valley is replacing the two-day Sandwell Show with a series of smaller events to give families more opportunities to get involved in activities.

The once hugely popular show, which at its height attracted crowds of 100,000 has been axed this year after 36 years due to falling visitor numbers blamed on bad weather.

Councillor Richard Marshall, cabinet member for leisure, said: "I hope lots of families will come down to enjoy the summer fun, and hopefully sun, at this wonderful beauty spot."

Among activities in the planning are Sandwell by the Sea, including a beach and the potential to camp overnight, a strongest man contest, animal racing, giant car boot sale, beach volleyball, travelling velodrome, boating on Dartmouth Park lake and a themed land train.

As well as bad weather, the council also felt the Sandwell Show, traditionally over the August bank holiday weekend, had become 'outdated'. Bosses believe the new programme of events will appeal to more people.

Details of more Summer In the Valley events are expected to be announced soon.

More information can be found at www.sandwell.gov.uk/sandwellvalley and www.facebook.com/sandwellvalley.

Primary skills in bake-off event

THE owner of a Tipton bakery shop has helped out a Tettenhall primary school as it showed off its baking skills to raise funds. The Parent Teacher Association at Woodthorne Primary School hosted its annual Great Woodthorne Bake-Off, where parents, pupils and teachers baked cakes and biscuits in an attempt to win various prize categories in the prestigious event.

Jess Dudley and her baby daughter Amelia with pupils

This year, owner of Bostin Bakes in Tipton, Jess Dudley and her five-month-old daughter Amelia joined forces with school cook Dawn Raby and head teacher Justin Crilly to judge the best cakes.

Many parents, family and friends of the school turned up and admire the masterpieces and have a drink and a slice of cake. Mr Crilly said: "We have a fantastic community of pupils, parents and teachers here at Woodthorne.

"I would like to thank the PTA for organising this event and their continued support for the school."

Warning on pensions if Tata Steel flounders

WORKERS in the British Steel Pension Fund, hundreds of them in Black Country, would see their benefits cut by at least 10 per cent if Tata Steel's business is not saved, according to a report.

The trustees of the BSPS also warned that future pension increases would be reduced if the scheme goes into the Pension Protection Fund (PPF), the Government's so-called 'pensions lifeboat'.

Tata is selling its loss-making UK business and is considering a number of bids. A decision is expected in the next few weeks.

The Government is considering changes to pensions law as part of its efforts to save the UK business, cutting the potential pensions bill for either a new buyer or to Tata itself.

The British Steel pension scheme currently has around 130,000 members in total and assets of £13.3 billion, but its deficit has grown to nearly £700 million.

In response to a Government consultation on the pension fund, the trustees said 58,000 members under the age of 65 would be affected if the BSPS goes into the lifeboat.

The PPF was set up to protect the pensions of workers whose companies failed, but it would still mean a 10 per cent cut in payouts to steel pensions if their fund is taken on. A bigger concern is the impact of on the lifeboat itself because of the size of the BSPS.

If the steel pension is taken on board the lifeboat then, for the 45,000 members who have not yet retired, it will mean a 10 per cent reduction in their promised pension, but no general reduction for the 85,000 pensioners.

Terminally-ill job protection

SANDWELL Council has become the first local authority in the country to back a campaign to support terminally-ill employees in the workplace.

It is supporting the 'dying to work' campaign, launched by the Trades Union Congress earlier this year, to ensure all employees battling a terminal illness have adequate employment protection.

Council leader Councillor Steve Eling said the council has decided employees with a terminal diagnosis would not lose their job because of their life-limiting condition.

"We recognise that employees with terminal illnesses require support and understanding, and not the additional stress and worry about possibly losing their job," he said.

"We will set out to support terminally-ill employees following their diagnosis and to recognise that safe and reasonable work can maintain dignity and offer a valuable distraction."

Councillor Eling added the new rules would provide employees with the security of work, peace of mind and the right to choose the best of action for them and their families.

Backing for town's blooms bonanza

Bloom bid – Councillor Elaine Costigan

THE second Wednesbury in Bloom competition will be springing into shape this summer with more than 20 entries expected.

The contest sees residents compete for Best Garden, Best Planter Display and Best Hanging Basket.

The event was hailed a huge success last year and organisers are anticipating the event to be an even bigger hit in 2016.

Wednesbury North Councillor Elaine Costigan said: "I am just thrilled Wednesbury in Bloom is happening for the second year now, it is really pleasing. I highly recommend all residents in Wednesbury to put their garden forward, it is a good bit of fun and there are some good prizes up for grabs."

Entries for Wednesbury in Bloom are still being accepted. The judging of entries will take place on July 22. This will then be followed by the Wednesbury Summer Fete at the town hall. The competition is open to all residents and businesses.

It is being sponsored by O'Connells Florist, in Wednesbury, who are giving entrants 10 per cent off to spend in store. The contest is being organised by Riverside Housing, the Wednesbury Celebrates group and Sandwell Council.

The fete will see live entertainment take place and is sponsored by local business BSJ Fixings.

Five judges will assess the entrants before picking their winners by visiting the contestants homes. An awards ceremony will take place on Saturday at the fete where the winners in each category will be crowned.

Each contestant gets a free voucher for entering.

Tributes pour in as Jack dies aged 108

Jack Jones, seen at Tudor Manor care home when he turned 108

Baggies fan Jack had a special treat last year, with Tony Brown and Darren Fletcher

A BAGGIES superfan who was born just 30 years after the club was formed has died aged 108.

Tributes have been paid to Albion supporter Jack Jones, who lived through two world wars, 20 prime ministers and the reign of five monarchs.

Jack, who was also believed to be the oldest person in the Midlands, has been described as a 'tremendous character' who was 'Albion through and through'.

Jack was born in Enville on February 12, 1908. King Edward VII was still on the throne at the time.

This was just 30 years after the club itself was founded and a year before WG Richardson, one of Albion's most revered early figures. Jack went to see his first game at the age of 12.

Club officials said they were saddened to hear of his passing.

Jack was a guest of honour at The Hawthorns in February 2015 when he celebrated his 107th birthday.

Celebrated

He watched his beloved Baggies beat Southampton 1-0.

Jack's longevity saw him witness first-hand some of the club's most celebrated moments.

His final visit to The Hawthorns for his 107th birthday included a meeting with one of his all-time heroes – Tony 'Bomber' Brown. As well as being presented with a personalised shirt – Jack 107 – he was given a signed ball in a mounted glass case and a signed shirt from the players, presented to him by captain Darren Fletcher.

Nischa Pritchard, care manager at Tudor Manor Care Home in Stourbridge where Jack has lived since 2013, said: "Jack was given the VIP treatment on that last visit to The Hawthorns and he even got to meet Tony 'Bomber' Brown which bought a lot of pleasure and conversation to Jack and all his friends at Tudor Manor.

"Jack always enjoyed talking about his memories supporting the Albion."

Bomber Brown said: "He was a delightful man, a great man and tremendous character who was Albion through and through.

"Talking to him about Albion was special because he had seen and experienced so much history.

"I'm so sad to hear of his passing – it is a sad day for the club."

In the Second World War Jack helped build Spitfires and during the war spent much of his working life as a lorry driver, as well as working in the metal industry.

Jack married Winifred in 1939 but she passed away in 1989.

The couple did not have children but Jack was joined by nieces and nephews to celebrate his birthday.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Death of former college principal

THE first female college principal in the Midlands has died at the age of 75.

Patricia Twyman, of Lax Lane, Bewdley, was appointed at Bournville College in January 1986.

Pat Twyman

Mrs Twyman, who died last Wednesday, was described by the college as was an inspirational leader who was passionate about education. She had retired in 2002.

Gail Edwards, Mrs Twyman's personal assistant, who still works at the college, said she was very fortunate to work for her.

"Pat was a larger than life character, an amazing educator, who really cared about the students and staff. She will be sorely missed," she said.

City highway to shut for works

A MAJOR highway in Birmingham is to close for refurbishment works to take place which could last seven months. Highways England has issued a public notice outlining the planned works to the A38(M) Aston Expressway, due to begin on Monday.

The southbound and northbound of the expressway is set to be closed for waterproofing works, concrete repairs and the resurfacing of the viaduct to take place. The road will remain open for contractors' vehicles, the local authority and emergency vehicles.

Highways England says 'discussions' are currently being held with Birmingham City Council to ensure 'the least amount of disruption'.

Fundraising fun for dialysis unit

A FUNDRAISING day is taking place on Saturday to celebrate a year since Queen Elizabeth Hospital opened the Smethwick Dialysis Unit.

A 'Car Boot Funday' takes place next to the unit at Rabone Park. Among the attractions on the day are a bouncy castle, soft activity play area for the toddlers, magic show, face-painting, mini go-karts, mascots, games, and even some stocks.

Admission is free and it will take place from noon to 4pm.

Delays for motorway drivers after crash

MOTORISTS faced delays along motorways in the Black Country following an accident on the M6.

It was reported around 2.20pm on Monday that one lane was blocked between junction seven of the M6, in Great Barr, and junction eight of the M5, following the crash on the M6 northbound. There were delays from further back at junction six.

West Midlands Police said a crash took place between junction eight and nine of the M6 around 1.38pm.

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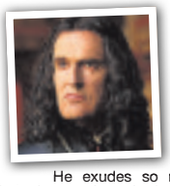
THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

THE hour approaches. If you've missed the arguments on the EU referendum, here's a quick summary. If we vote Leave, income tax will go up, pensions will be cut, a plague of locusts will descend and we get Michael Gove as prime minister. If we vote Remain, our kettles will stop working, all bananas will be straight and a million Turks will arrive at Dover next weekend. Good luck.

IN a recent item on synaesthesia, the condition which jumbles up the senses, I suggested that Wednesdays were yellow. A reader insists they are blue. Damn this colour blindness.

ONE headline on this week's revelations about Clement Freud was: "Shocked widow says sorry to her husband's victims." In fact, Lady Freud apologised quickly and did not seem in the least shocked. I fear this will run and run.

I'M already missing Ben Elton's comedy series, Upstart Crow (BBC2) starring David Mitchell as the yet-to-be-famous Shakespeare, bouncing half-formed speeches and sonnets off his unappreciative friends and family. Elton kept the in-jokes at an Eng Lit level most of us could understand. But quite why he gave Shakespeare's family Birmingham accents is anyone's guess. Shakespeare came from Warwickshire so it's likely his family spoke with a rural Warwickshire accent. Could it be, forsooth, that Elton, like so many Londoners, simply thinks Brummies are good for a cheap laugh?



HAS there ever been a more deliciously detestable telly-villain than Rupert Everett as Feron, the corrupt Governor of Paris in The Musketeers (BBC1)? He exudes so much nastiness that when we learn he is in agony from a crumbling spine, we just want to see him wince. What a class act.

PATRIOTISM is a bit like whisky. Too little and you don't feel the effects. Too much and you're ill. At the Last Night of the Proms some years ago, everyone was merrily singing Land of Hope and Glory – except for one red-faced, frothy-mouthed maniac in the front row who appeared to be screaming the words. I was reminded of him this week when the Women's Institute annual meeting in Brighton ended unhappily. In celebration of the Queen's 90th, the audience were happy to sing Happy Birthday and the national anthem. But when it came to belting out Rule Britannia with some members in union-jack costumes, others thought it was all a bit Ukippy and remained seated, for which they were harangued online and ordered to "enter into the British way of being British." I'm with the sitters on this. The British way is – or rather, was – not to make a fuss.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Neighbours stopped drugs grower

NEIGHBOURS stopped a man escaping from a drugs den hidden behind the doors of a Black Country home by making a citizens arrest before police arrived.

Thuy Huang, originally from Vietnam, was nabbed by residents as he was fleeing from the premises in Northgate, Cradley Heath, where police later found 252 cannabis plants growing. Rita Bills, who has lived in the road for more than 35 years, said she had felt something wasn't right in the four-bedroom house since March. She said: "Just before Easter we believed someone had moved in, but it was odd that we were seeing no-one coming or going. A couple of weeks later I thought I could smell something odd.

"When the landlord came one Sunday afternoon he said he was going to phone the police and that's when we could hear noises from the back gate.

"My son, Daniel, along with another neighbour went over the wall and caught the man trying to leave out the back door. We waited at the bottom of the entry to make sure he didn't get out neither."

Police subsequently found the plants, paraphernalia and growing equipment in all the bedrooms of the house as well as the loft. The 44-year-old, of no fixed address, admitted producing cannabis with the intent of supplying. Huang was jailed for eight months at Wolverhampton Crown Court. It was heard how he had been recruited as the 'gardener', to grow and look after the plants before they were sold. Recorder John Steel QC had commended the neighbours for their actions.

Old West Brom base in auction for £2.5m

By Jamie Brassington

THE old headquarters of the West Bromwich Building Society is up for auction with a price tag of £2.5million.

The landmark building, which has been in the town High Street for nearly 40 years, could be turned into new homes.

The old West Brom HQ

The iconic six-storey building is set go under the hammer next month with auctioneers Allsop. It has a guide price of £2.5million.

It was built in 1978 and until April this year was home to staff, before they were relocated to the new company headquarters on Providence Place.

Councillors have welcomed that the building could be turned into new homes, which Sandwell needs.

Councillor Preet Gill, for St Paul's Ward, said: "I think it is always important that empty buildings aren't just left to become derelict. It is positive that the building is on the market. It will no doubt attract buyers and will be developed.

Canteen

"The move is positive for West Bromwich given all the development that has happened there."

The building is located in the heart of a £1billion regeneration in West Bromwich. There has been a company headquarters based in High Street since 1849.

It has six floors and comprises nearly 45,000 sq ft of office space.

Inside there are two 10-person lifts, a staff canteen and central heating. The building can be rented out as a whole, on a floor-by-floor basis, or in smaller suites.

The auction will take place at The Park Lane Hotel, Piccadilly, London, on July 6.

Councillor Paul Sandars said: "Hopefully the developers make affordable housing, if the building will be converted into residential properties then I'm sure they will be affordable. We need new homes in Sandwell.

"When I think of new residential properties I think of parking so hopefully developers will take that into consideration too."

Young talent jobs scheme expands

Mentors Kelly Cranston, Sarah Kumar, Shane Wedderburn and student Darien Law, aged 20, from Tipton

A SCHEME to help support scores of jobless young people is expanding – taking on new staff after proving successful in getting people into work and training.

Two years ago BCTG secured a slice of more than £10 million Big Lottery funding to deliver the Talent Match programme across Sandwell targeting out-of-work 18 to 24-year-olds. Since then the scheme, based on mentoring, has helped almost 200 young people - some of whom are now applying for university places, others have apprenticeships, full-time jobs or are volunteering.

Five new jobs were created to manage the programme in Sandwell aimed at young people who are furthest from the jobs market to secure or take up enterprising job opportunities. Now the scheme is moving into additional office space at its base in The Hub, High Street, West Bromwich, and is increasing its staff to 12. Talent Match is a national programme which boosts opportunities for young people by getting employers, education providers and local charities to work together and help young people overcome problems like homelessness, mental health and confidence issues – all which affect their chances to work.

Kelly Cranston, Talent Match senior mentor, said: "Talent Match is a five-year programme funded by the Big Lottery which focuses on youth unemployment. We are delighted that so many young people are being helped as a direct result of it and that we are able to expand our provision in Sandwell."

Darien Law, 20, from Tipton, said: "I started on the programme 18 months ago and it has helped me greatly. I had housing and finance problems, which were stopping me from studying. Talent Match and the team at Sandwell, have been brilliant and I am very grateful for all the help they've given me."

Fears over transport of nuclear weapons

A PUBLIC meeting will take place in Birmingham next month highlighting that nuclear weapons are routinely transported through Sandwell.

The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons UK are holding the meeting to inform the public that 'nuclear weapons are driven so close to people's doors.'

This will be part of the group's 'Nukes OF Hazard' project.

ICAN UK says Warheads from Britain's nuclear weapons system Trident are transported around six times a year between Scotland and Berkshire whilst passing through the West Midlands along the journey.

The group added that the weapons are transported along British roads going past schools, hospitals, workplaces, and homes.

And it states these lorries are putting British lives at risk as they could be involved in a traffic accident or be the target for a terrorist attack leading to a potential radiation leak or explosion.

The meeting will take place at the church of St Martin in the Bull Ring on July 23 from 11am last to 2pm.

Matt Hawkins, Project Officer at ICAN-UK, said: "We don't know the exact route the lorries take as the MOD unsurprisingly won't disclose that information but the lorries have been tracked by a group called Nukewatch, who say the lorries travel along routes such as the M6, M6 Toll, M5 and M42"

For more information about Nukes Of Hazard visit nukesofhazard.co.uk

Woman died of natural causes

A 91-year-old woman passed away in a Tipton care home due to natural causes, an inquest heard.

Hazel Smith, who was cared for in Princess Lodge Care Home, had a deprivation of liberty order in place due to suffering from dementia, Black Country Coroners Court heard.

Mrs Smith died on June 7.

She was a widow and had been a housewife.

The cause of death given by her GP was old age.

Concluding a verdict of natural causes, senior coroner Zafar Siddique, said: "There was an inquest because a safe guard order was in place. We have heard that she passed away because of old age and that the death was expected. Therefore my conclusion is that she died of natural causes."

Commuter road set for closures

A BUSY Tipton commuter road has closed for three Sundays. Sedgley Road West has been affected while resurfacing takes place on Hurst Lane, with closures due on June 26 and July 3. Access to frontages and emergency service access will be maintained.

Roadworks misery as project gets under way

DRIVERS are suffering delays after roadworks kicked off outside The Hawthorns in West Bromwich.

South Staffs Water is carrying out the work on Birmingham Road to renew the water mains, between Colliery Road and Halfords Lane, running until July 17. Bosses say that a number of traffic management measures will be in place, including lane closures and diversions.

Motorists are also being warned to avoid the area where possible especially during peak times. The bus stop outside Topps Tiles is suspended throughout the first phase of works.

A spokesperson for South Staffs Water said: "We're sorry for any inconvenience this may cause and would like to thank local residents and businesses for their patience. Our employees and network partners will be working to ensure the work is completed efficiently and on schedule."

Lane closures will be in place along Birmingham Road for the duration of the works with vehicles travelling from the M5 junction unable to access Colliery Road from the road.

Advance warning signs will divert traffic via Kendrick Way and Doranda Way to Colliery Road. Any vehicle exiting Colliery Road will also be unable to make the right turn into Birmingham Road towards Birmingham.

They will be directed to make a left turn toward West Bromwich where they can make their way round the M5 junction roundabout and then back down Birmingham Road towards Birmingham.

Elderly man in stairlift tragedy

A 87-YEAR-OLD man died by accidental death after he fell getting out of his stairlift, an inquest heard.

James Waldron, from Great Barr, passed away at Sandwell Hospital on June 7. He hailed from Ireland. Black Country Coroner's Court heard how he had a history of falls and had fell backwards after getting out of his stairlift at the top of the stairs.

Mr Waldron had a fractured sternum and was 'very delirious' once admitted to hospital. He had also suffered from liver problems.

Senior coroner, Zafar Siddique, concluded a verdict of accidental death, saying: "If it was not for the fracture following the fall, on the balance of probability his condition would not have got worse while in hospital."

Chess club call for new players

WEST Bromwich Chess Club wants new members for the upcoming season which starts in September. The club holds a pre-season five round Swiss tournament on Monday – call David Davies on 07751 964788.

Geoff strikes out to join in city run

Geoff Horsfield with his running shoes

FORMER West Bromwich Albion player Geoff Horsfield is taking part in the Great Birmingham Run.

The ex-striker is running the race on October 16 to raise money for Marie Curie Hospice and his charity, the Geoff Horsfield Foundation.

It comes after the player overcame cancer. The disease touched his family again when friend Kellie Wheeler lost her fight to skin cancer three months ago. She was aged 35.

Horsfield set up his own foundation, which supports accommodation for homeless and vulnerable people, after completing the Great Birmingham 10k. Horsfield said: "Kellie was one of my wife Tina's best mates – we were absolutely devastated to lose her. I've promised to run the half marathon with Dean and split the money I raise between Marie Curie and my foundation. I was lucky enough to survive testicular cancer in 2008 but the disease continues to devastate so many lives." Horsfield, who lives in Lichfield, added: "So far, my foundation has set up two seven-bedroomed houses in Erdington, but there is a pressing need for more accommodation and especially services to help them rebuild their lives."

Geoff was due to join pal Jake Dolphin on his Dublin stag do on the weekend of October 15 but has pulled out to be one of the 20,000 runners expected to enter the Great Birmingham Run. His preparations for the half marathon will be in stark contrast to the 10k. He said: "I've never run more than 10k. I may have done on a football pitch, but that's different, as it's stop-start."

To sponsor Horsfield, visit www.gofundme.com/GHF.

Murder accused, 24, not guilty of killing

A MAN accused of the brutal killing of his friend at a Tipton flat has been found not guilty of his murder.

Daniel Indiga Wallace, aged 24, was discovered in a pool of his own blood at his flat in Fisher Street last November.

He had suffered 19 impact blows with a bladed weapon, believed to be a meat cleaver

Sam Arnold, 21, of Slater Street, Tipton, was accused of the murder. But a jury at Birmingham Crown Court last week returned to find him innocent of murder and an alternative charge of manslaughter. They deliberated for an hour and a half following a trial that lasted almost three weeks.

Sam Arnold yelled: "Thank you, I told you, man," to the jury after the verdicts were read out. No murder weapon was found after Mr Wallace was found dead on November 11 last year. And the only DNA of Arnold being at the flat was fingerprints on the back door.

Given that he was regularly seen at Mr Wallace's flat, this evidence was deemed insufficient to convict him.

Pressure

It was the prosecution's case, put before the court by David Mason QC, that Arnold was under pressure from Mr Wallace and other drug dealers who he owed money to, and that he took the law into his own hands, ending Mr Wallace's life in a ferocious attack. Blood of the victim was even found on the ceiling.

Prosecutor David Mason QC told the jury earlier in the trial that Mr Wallace and Arnold were known to each other through the dealing of drugs. He said that Mr Wallace had sent Arnold an aggressive text message on November 7, when it is believed he was murdered, demanding money he was owed for cannabis.

Arnold, who did not have his own phone, is said to have used his girlfriend's mobile. He said: " A message was found from Daniel Wallace to the defendant saying 'get round here, I need that money now'." The prosecution argued that message prompted the defendant to go round to Daniel Wallace's flat. But Arnold's barrister Jo Sidhu QC insisted that the defendant and Mr Wallace were friends and that Arnold had been with his girlfriend, Penny Harper, babysitting for her sister's children, on the night of November 7.

Arnold told how Mr Wallace was a 'nice guy' and that they had a good friendship.

Judge Martin Wall released Arnold.

Downpours drive region crazy

Cars stuck in flooding on Dartmouth Road, Smethwick. Picture: West Midlands Fire Service

CARS abandoned, roads flooded and houses struck by lightning – just some of the latest damage done in the Black Country by another summer downpour.

For the second time in five days the region was struck by a mid-afternoon deluge. Vehicles were stranded in Wednesbury, while the road next to Sandwell and Dudley railway station was closed.

In Upper Gornal three homes in Botany Drive were struck by lightning – with two people taken to hospital.

Homeowner Val Talbot, 60, said: "I was in my bedroom and pressed the remote to turn the TV on, and as I did that there was this big bang and sparks came flying out the back of the TV.

"I know there was thunder directly above. I live quite high up and see a lot of storms but this has never happened before. I'm thankful that I was in at the time because what if there could have been a fire." West Midlands Fire Service spokesman Pawan Dhande said: "Two women were taken to hospital. We received a 999 call at 1.23pm to Botany Drive in Upper Gornal. A lightning strike had hit an aerial booster and started a fire."

Birmingham city centre was battered by water with part of the Bullring centre shut. And cars were in deep water outside The

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cannabis plants seized by police

MORE than 100 cannabis plants were seized in Tipton, with one man arrested. West Midlands Police Cannabis Disposal Team discovered 107 plants at the address in Market Place on the morning of Sunday June 12.

Three rooms in the property were being used for cultivation of the plants. One man was arrested in connection with the crime.

The team @CDTWMP tweeted to say: "A warrant executed led to the discovery of three rooms used for cultivation. No profit for cannabis cultivating criminals."

NSPCC supports move on services

THE NSPCC has backed the decision to take children's services out of the control of Sandwell Council, with leaders claiming 'serious action' is needed to fix 'widespread problems' within the department.

It was revealed that the council would lose control of services for the borough's children following a six-month review which came after an 'inadequate' Ofsted ranking.

A NSPCC spokesman said: "Children have been put at risk by continued failures at Sandwell's children's services over a number of years."

Ocean of tunes set for city hall

BILLY Ocean has announced a huge run of UK headline dates for 2017, including a date in Birmingham, where he will perform all of his greatest hits from his new album.

Ocean will visit Birmingham Symphony Hall on April 3K.

His latest top 10 album, Here You Are: The Best Of Billy Ocean is available now on Amazon , iTunes and in stores.

Tickets are on sale from www.gigsandtours.com / 0844 811 0051

Spanish airline starts flights at Brum

BIRMINGHAM Airport has welcomed Spanish airline AlbaStar, which has launched twice weekly flights between the city and Palma, Majorca.

The route will be served by a Boeing 737-400 aircraft containing 170 seats and will operate on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

William Pearson, aviation director, said: "We are very pleased to be welcoming AlbaStar – our 12th new airline in the space of just over a year, to Birmingham Airport. "

City date for folk star

AMERICAN folk singer/songwriter Loudon Wainwright III will be playing at Birmingham Town Hall on a UK tour on October 18. It will be his first appearance in the UK since performing at last year's BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards wherehe was honoured with a lifetime achievement award.

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IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

Here's an idea, get rid of all bus lanes

THERE is a brilliant spoof doing the rounds where David Cameron warns that if Britain leaves the EU, the DFS sale could be about to end.

The gag has him claiming that "A vote for Brexit is a vote for bigotry, permanent global recession and full-price sofas", explaining how King John signed the Magna Carta on The Canterbury, "a stylish corner group with floral scatter cushions."

Is it just me, or is the most insightful commentary we have had on the subject so far?

■■■

YIPPEE! I'm sure you will all be as delighted me to hear that in just 12 months Wolverhampton Council has nabbed 71,000 motorists for driving in bus lanes, generating up to £4.2 million in fines. In a city with a population of 250,000 – where 35 per cent of households have no car – that's some going.

Apparently, there is a team of trained observers whose job it is to wait for one of the cameras to go off, and then watch the footage of their quarry caught on television.

Wouldn't you just love to invite them round for dinner?

Still, the cash generated through the scheme has nothing whatsover to do with reducing the council's deficit, and all the money will be spent on 'highway improvement schemes'.

Hmm. I wonder how many of these 'improvements' involve white paint, confusing road signs, and yet more lovely cameras?

The council, of course, does not want anybody to be fined, and would love nothing more than for everybody to refrain from driving in the bus lanes.

And you know what? I agree with him. And I think I have come up with a very workable way that the council can turn this utopian vision into a reality. Get rid of all bus lanes.

Look, there's nothing wrong with buses, I used one myself only last week. But surely, given Wolverhampton Council's commitment to equality and diversity, it would not wish to treat some road users more equally than others.

■■■

BESIDES, how can the driver of any vehicle be expected to understand bus lanes following new research which says the average human now has an attention span shorter than that of a goldfish?

A study commissioned by Microsoft reckons we are all now so addicted to our smart phones that our attention span is now just eight seconds, down from 12 seconds just 16 years ago.

By way of comparison, a goldfish can focus for nine seconds.

Meanwhile, new research says we now have an attention span shorter than that of a goldfish. We are so addicted to our smartphones...

28a Hall Green Road, Sandwell

The former Lloyds Bank, Birmingham Street, Oldbury

The former police station, in Dudley Road, Birmingham

Don't let old buildings crumble into nothing

JESSICA LABHART talks to a woman who is passionate about saving important buildings left to rack and ruin

DOZENS of historically significant buildings are at risk of falling into disrepair in the West Midlands according to a new book which is appealing for potential owners to come forward to save them.

The buildings at risk include an ornate Victorian educational institute, an X-ray building, a very early branch of Lloyds Bank, a huge pub, a miniature police station and a pumping station.

The nine buildings feature in 'SAVE's 2016-17 Buildings at Risk Catalogue' which will be published on June 27.

The aim of the book is to encourage potential buyers to find out more about the buildings and perhaps put in an offer to save them from falling into further disrepair.

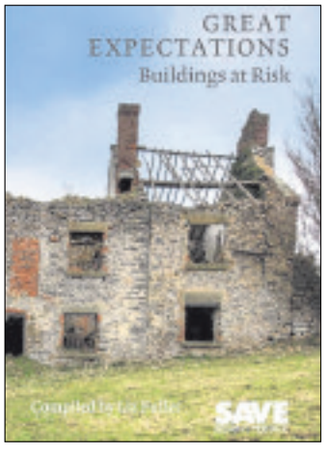
Liz Fuller, SAVE's Buildings at risk officer, who has compiled the book said: "The catalogue is a sampling of the kind of buildings that make our towns and villages distinctive and will be of interest to anyone who loves old buildings and their history."

Engineer

The guide, considered the ultimate 'lonely hearts' list for buildings across the country in need of new owners includes Bilston Science and Art Building, located on Mount Pleasant, Wolverhampton.

The school of art has long served Wolverhampton as a place of education and improvement. Situated in the Mount Pleasant area, it was built to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1897. The building was designed by Captain Wilson, the Town Engineer. A number of nearby buildings from this era have been converted to new uses. The old tram shed is a Sikh temple and the ornate former drill hall is a popular live music venue.

Bilston Science and Art Building, located on Mount Pleasant, Wolverhampton



The front cover of the catalogue

Other buildings included in the book are the X-Ray Building, Foundry Lane, Smethwick. Built around 1900 this building housed Commercial X-rays Limited until about 1990. The façade is described as having 'an unexpected elegance'.

Built of brick in a variety of colours, there are shallow segmental-headed window surrounds with key stones picked out in contrasting brick. The building is now in a very poor state of repair and stands in an area of other ex-industrial buildings, some listed Grade II and II. The Commercial X-ray building has in the past been used as an arts venue and the book's author hopes it could be brought back into use in this role or could provide interesting office space or light industrial space.

Meanwhile, 28a Hall Green Road, Sandwell was built in around 1800 has three storeys, the third being a rather low attic storey, with a symmetrical front of two bays.The central door has a pediment. While the house probably stood in its own grounds just off a main road, it is now located in close proximity to a light industrial business and is surrounded by other modern industrial buildings. It is in quite a poor condition with its roof sheathed in protective tarpaulin. Given its location, it may not be suited to restoration to its original residential use.

The former Lloyds Bank, Birmingham Street, Oldbury, was the first branch office Lloyds Bank ever opened, in 1884. The house has three storeys of four somewhat unequal bays, with a door placed off-centre perhaps indicating that this used to be two house rather than one. The building served as a bank until relatively recently.Speaking of the building, Miss Fuller said: "This interesting and historic building is now standing empty and neglected. It could be suited to conversion to offices or retail at ground level with residential units above."

Dudley Road Police Station, Dudley Road, Birmingham, is another building featured in the publication. The house sits in the corner of Summerfield Park and used to be the local police station. It was built in the late 19th or early 20th century. The half timbered gable and canted window at first floor level forms an elaborate and eye-catching focus. It has been empty for some time and stands boarded up and graffiti-marked. Located as it is in the park, it could have a number of uses such as a community or children's centre or a café.

Mike Fox, SAVE Deputy Director, said: "Highlighting historic buildings from all over the country, and of all shapes and sizes, we hope that our readers will heroically take up the challenge and help revive these buildings."

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Threat to borders should be thwarted

WE sympathise with the letter from Ewart Johnson: Project fear is bullying. There was a recent article from a magazine regarding the plans of the EU's Treaty of Lisbon, to, effectively, end Great Britain, dividing it up with new borders.

Now we know why Gordon Brown did not have a referendum on this treaty and it is so dishonest to keep these plans secret. The EU is determined to destroy all that was achieved by the victors in the Second World War.

My late father died in 2003 of cancer of the bowel, from the diet he had as a prisoner of war with the Japanese for over three years.

His death was one of millions resulting from the war to stop our capital city being Berlin.

As members of the EU, our capital city is Brussels, where most of our laws are made. Let it be London again by leaving the EU. How dare they destroy the whole point of the Second World War and Great Britain without our consent.

We are very upset about this divisive plan. HM The Queen's kingdom must not be destroyed.

JOHN AND JANET SPENCER
Oldbury

Not much help due with vote on Europe

SO do I listen to David: "I have struck us a great deal"; or Boris: "I want to be the next PM"; or Jeremy: "You can trust me even though I'll defend the country with pea shooters"; or Nigel: "I have resigned, oh no I haven't?"

How much will Angela Merkel or Barack Obama influence me? When I hear each one of them spout their infantile nonsense it encourages me to vote opposite to what they are recommending.

So I look at what is important to me. The NHS, employment, education, housing and employees' rights. Employees rights are under threat if we leave? This is only true if the Government abandon the rights already established. Are they saying they will ditch those rights? They are Tories, they wouldn't do that would they?

One last thought, has David Cameron put in place contingency plans in case the vote goes against him? That'll be a no then.

R PLANT
Bilston

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Sandwell Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL
sandwell.chronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Time to reclaim our true independence

THIS referendum is not about UK politics by any particular party. It's about the UK being a fully independent country as we have been for centuries or ruled by the appointed (unelected) commissioners of the EU.

Some people still appear confused between Europe and the EU. Europe, the countries on the continental landmass known as the European Continent. The European Union a political group founded by people with mostly communist ideas who wished to tie all the independent countries of the European continent together under their one political communist style system. Sovereignty, it is the independent nature of a country to govern itself, it is nothing at all to do with having a Royal family as some people believe.

The EU single market, the countries/states that the EU commissions and committees have arranged trade deals with which cover approx 500 million people. They say it's 'free trade' but surely there are trade tariffs hidden within the EU membership fee and payable in advance. No other trading block in the world requires membership fees.

With the exceptions of the Vikings, Romans and that little skirmish in 1066 between Harold and William, Great Britain/UK has been able to make our own laws, make our own trade deals with countries we want to trade with, even if we have paid tariffs. The world population is estimated to be seven billion and growing by the minute and yet we in the UK, within the EU single market are only allowed to trade with the countries the EU tell us we can trade with.

S Steatham, Darlaston

Signs call after fine

REGARDING bus lane fines: my husband took our son to Wolverhampton train station several months ago.

He has rarely driven in Wolverhampton, and never to the train station before. He incurred two £60 fines on that day. I accompanied him to the train station two weeks ago, and noticed that the bus lane notice on the left by the bus station is not visible as you exit Railway Drive.

Councillor Steve Evans says WCC is not trying to make money out of drivers, but I suggest he takes a walk and looks at the notices from all angles to ensure drivers can see them.

K GORDON
Black Lake

Get out for our survival

HOW can we keep paying millions to the EU, millions in foreign aid, millions to immigrants, building thousands of houses for whom?

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P WILLIAMS
Great Barr

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Backing – physics expert, Professor Brian Cox

Stars Fisayo Akinade, Paddy Considine, Glenn Close and Gemma Arterton, who were in Birmingham filming recently

Ned's Atomic Dustbin and The Empty Can fly the flag

Dudley councillors Peter Lowe and Patrick Harley

Support – Citizen Khan, otherwise known as Adil Ray

Lead singer of Judas Priest, Rob Halford shows his true colours

Stars back the Black Country

THE organisers behind the Black Country Festival are on the lookout for the best talent the region has to offer, to ensure this year's event is bigger and better than ever.

Steve Edwards and James Stevens have become known as 'The Black Country Boys' after their success over the last couple of years in bringing together a wide array of attractions for the annual celebration, which will be taking place once again throughout next month.

"'The Black Country festival is about bringing the communities together and promoting our amazing region," said Steve.

"Last year we were involved in well over 500 events ranging from barbecues for as little as 20 people, to filling football stadiums with over 20,000 people.

"We brought back iconic events like The Halesowen Carnival which had not happened for 20 years, and we also put new events on in Bilston, Cradley Heath and Walsall." The Halesowen Carnival will be among the events kicking off this year's festival. It is taking place on July 2 at Highfield Park between 12 noon and 6pm, complete with market, fair, music, dance and much more.

The next day, July 3, will see the return of The Black Country Road Run, which last year saw over 1,100 people take part and raised £23,000.

Events on the following weekend include the Brockmoor and Pensnett Black Country Funday, from 1pm to 5pm on July 10 at the Dell Stadium, with live performances and everything from historical re-enactment groups to alternate wrestling.

Moreover, this year they have succeeded in getting 12 of the biggest Black Country brewers to back the festival, who not only will be uniting on July 29, 30 and 31 for the return of The Dudley Beer Festival, but will be hosting over 150 festival events in pubs throughout July. Other events include comedy gigs, flash-mob dances and sports tournaments, but they are eager to add more to the schedule.

Famous faces are also getting involved. Throughout the past year the organisers have been informing celebrities about the festival, and getting them to show their support by holding up the Black Country flag.

These include Glenn Close, Gemma Arterton and Paddy Considine, who Steve met on the set of film 'She Who Brings Gifts' when they came to shoot in Birmingham.

He explained: "I casually walked over to their trailer and introduced myself and produced The Black Country Flag. Glenn Close was particularly interested in the history of The Black Country and the role it played in the industrial revolution.

After chatting for about half hour and explaining what the festival was trying to do for the community, they were more than happy to have their picture taken with the flag."

Co-organiser James Stevens is the man behind the infamous Black Country Anthem 'I Vow To Thee Black Country' which reached the UK top 40 in 2014.

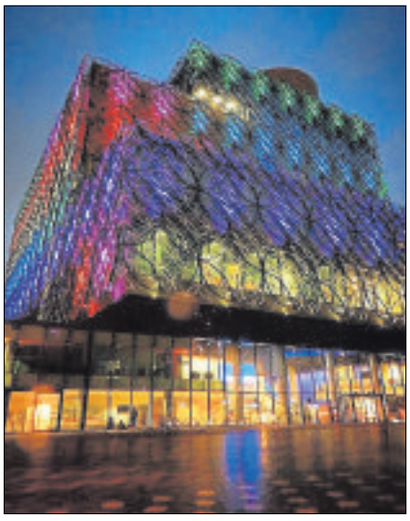
Proud of their achievements so far, James added: "Last year was an exceptional year for the Black Country and the festival. The Flag was seen flying all over the world and it is the second most popular flag in England, only being out sold by the St Georges Flag."

"The Black Country is all about community, pride and having fun. Black Country people are the salt of the earth, we are full of pride for our historic region and the festival allows us all to come together showcase everything that is great about the Black Country."

"We want all local businesses to get in touch with us and show the world what The Black Country still has to offer. "

The festival organisers also want to hear from local performers. To get involved, and find out the events happening near you, contact Steve and James via the official website black-country-festival.co.uk

Library's colourful tribute to victims



Birmingham Library all lit-up in the rainbow colours in respect of the LGBT community

THE Library of Birmingham was lit up to show support for the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) community and pay tribute to the victims of an attack on a gay Orlando nightclub, which left nearly 50 people dead.

The building was illuminated after a gunman went on a shooting rampage at the Pulse nightclub in Florida on Sunday June 12, killing 49 people and wounding a further 53.

Vigils have been held around the world to pay respect to those tragically killed and affected by the massacre.

In Birmingham and London, hundreds of people gathered along the streets to show their support for the LGBT community and remember the victims. The LGBT community use the rainbow flag as a symbol for representation.

It is commonly used with the colours in order of how they appear in a rainbow. The colours of the flag were designed to symbolise life (red), healing (orange), sunlight (yellow), nature (green), harmony (blue), and spirit (purple/violet).

A vigil followed in Hurst Street, which is at the heart of the Gay Quarter in the city. The hashtag #prayfororlando has been used online following the attacks.

Award prize is named in memory of ex-leader

A BUSINESS awards event this summer is to name its prize for start-up companies in honour of Darren Cooper, the leader of Sandwell Council who died suddenly earlier this year.

Ninder Johal, organiser of the Nachural Summer Business Ball and Awards at Wolverhampton Racecourse on July 15, said the decision was a 'no brainer'.

"He was such an advocate of start ups and enterprise," said Mr Johal. "He led many initiatives during his time at Sandwell Council such as preferential rental rates for start-up's in specially designed incubator units. I am sure that he would be proud of the legacy he left for encouraging individuals to set up their businesses.

"For a region to flourish, there needs to be steady birth of new businesses and we need to continue to put our front foot forward in terms of encouraging the very important SME space. This Darren Cooper start-up award emphasizes this importance."

The Signature Awards seek to celebrate and highlight the importance of the Asian business community in the region.

By Simon Penfold

He added: "The awards seek to celebrate and highlight the ever increasing importance of the Asian business community and its great contribution to the local, regional and national economy. The profile of the awards is increasing year on year."

Sponsors for the event include Qatar Airways, Intu (operator of Merry Hill shopping centre),Vision Print, Divya Group, Wolverhampton University, Cobra Beer, East End foods, Hollywood Monster, Pathway Group,FMBC Solicitors, Akaal. Com, Birmingham City University, and HRA loudspeakers.

For further information contact Nachural on 0121 526 3141 or ninder.johal@nachural.co.uk

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Dr. Tariq Mahmood of Divine Dentistry gives the following reasons for this trend:

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5. It can make you look younger.

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Love Deborah

"Having always been a bit self-conscious about my crooked teeth, I decided to look into having them straightened. I met with Dr Mahmood, and he then talked me through the process and my options in detail (Damon braces had been recommended, in my case).
A year or so later and my smile is much improved. No more of those anxious-looking, tight-lipped grins of the old photos for me - and my confidence has definitely been given a boost. If you feel there is room for improvements - and if it's within your means - I would say, don't hesitate. I am very happy with the results and people have told me that it was worth every penny.
Cheers, Tariq and Co."
Lee Stokes, West Bromwich

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Doctor caught in pay fraud hit with bill for £75,000

A 'DISHONEST' doctor who defrauded the NHS in Wales by taking on shifts at a hospital in the Black Country while off sick has been ordered to pay back more than £75,000.

Gynaecologist Anthony Madu was hit with the £75,620.73 bill at Cardiff Crown Court on Monday after a probe by the NHS Counter Fraud Service (Wales). Madu, aged 47, of The Oaks, Woolwich, London, must pay the money within six months or face two years in prison.

He was found guilty in December 2014 at Newport Crown Court of six counts of fraud and handed a suspended two-year jail term and 150 hours' community service.

Madu worked in a number of hospitals while on paid suspension and sick leave from Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, which employed him between August 2009 and June 2010. He got the work through an employment agency. By October 2009 he had been suspended due to concerns over his professional conduct and integrity.

Yorkshire

In March 2010, Madu informed the Health Board he was receiving counselling and medical help, and was not able to work, supplying a medical certificate covering January 23 to June 2, 2010. The Health Board terminated Madu's employment on June 10, 2010.

It was later discovered he had been working as a locum at Scarborough District Hospital, Yorkshire while on sick leave. Investigators established Madu had also worked at Sandwell General Hospital and The Royal Oldham Hospital, Greater Manchester, throughout this sick period.

He was arrested in November 2011.

Madu earned an extra £69,000 at the other hospitals in addition to his Cardiff and Vale University Health Board salary. This secondary employment was never declared to his employer – as was legally required.

Going loco as weekend steams ahead

CLUN Castle, Earl of Mount Edgcumbe and many other locomotives can be seen at the Tyseley Locomotive Works steam open weekend.

The event at the former Birmingham Railway Museum this weekend includes train rides and workshop tours. Trade Gates are open from 10am on both days with admission for adults £15 and accompanied children 15 and under are free.

Tyseley's flagship steam locomotive Clun Castle was recently reunited with it's boiler after an overhaul as part of its ongoing restoration.

Clun Castle is one of only two surviving modified Castle Class steam locomotives, built for the Great Western Railway from 1923 to 1950 to haul high-speed express trains.

Clun Castle was purchased from British Rail and saved from an uncertain future in 1966 by a group led by Mr Pat Whitehouse for a little over £3,000. The current overhaul began in earnest in 2010.

Monstrous mural marks street art start

The huge mural painted on the factory wall in Birmingham's Coventry Street

A HUGE new mural has been daubed on a wall in Birmingham city centre ahead of new street art festival.

The artwork shows a massive scaly animal with branch-like antlers lifting people to safety from water. Given the recent wet weather that has caused chaos across the region it seems a fitting addition. Renowned artist Phlegm painted the striking piece in just three days on the wall of a factory in Digbeth's Coventry Street, to promote this year's City of Colours Festival.

Phlegm is the first of more than 120 artists to touch down in Birmingham for the free-entry street art event.

His monstrous effort is the first of dozens likely to be produced at the festival, which started on Saturday.

The street artists have been invited to paint, draw and exhibit their work on as many walls and other canvases as possible. Festival bosses said the event will be a platform for 'promoting emerging talent alongside more established artists'. The event will be spread over 15 venues, with 10 music stages, a range of exciting performances and participatory activities, a market hall and street food.Festival bosses said: "The festival will reflect the vibrancy of its people and its places, bringing together different communities, family and friends of all ages to enjoy the electric atmosphere.."

Entrance to the City of Colours festival is free. Gourmet street food will be available to cater for all tastes with a range of vendors providing cuisine from around the world including Caribbean, Japanese, Greek, Italian and Thai.

Family fun with Armed Forces event

MEMBERS of the public have been invited to show their support for the men and women of Britain's Armed Forces at a special event in Oldbury town centre. The Armed Forces Day on Saturday will include children's activities and entertainment.

A military parade will start at the Low Town car park at 11.30am and will finish outside Sandwell Council House. The crowds and military service personnel will be addressed by the Deputy Mayor of Sandwell, Councillor Susan Downing, at 11.45am.

After the speech, members of the public will be able to enjoy a family fun day in the Civic Square with various stalls and attractions. There will be a mobile climbing wall, mountain bike/BMX course and trampolines. On the stage, singers, dhol drummers, a children's dance group and a choir will be providing entertainment.

Councillor Downing said: "We hope that there will be a good turnout. People will have the opportunity to see the parade and then get involved with some fun, family entertainment."

During the official ceremony, Sandwell Council will re-sign the Armed Forces Covenant.Any Sandwell veterans who would like their medals or badges to be formally presented at the Armed Forces Day event should call the Mayor's Parlour on 0121 569 3041.

AlbaStar starts flights to Majorca

BIRMINGHAM Airport has welcomed Spanish airline AlbaStar, which has launched twice-weekly flights between the city and Palma, Majorca. The route will be served by a Boeing 737-400 aircraft and will operate on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

William Pearson, aviation director, said: "We are very pleased to be welcoming AlbaStar – our 12th new airline in the space of just over a year, to Birmingham Airport."

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Kara's kindness is hair apparent with big chop

A CHARITY haircut is the latest fundraising effort by a grateful family, who have so far collected a staggering £32,000 for Birmingham Children's Hospital.

Ever since the hospital helped to save the life of Kieron Pearson from West Bromwich, who was born with some of his organs on the outside of his body in a condition called exomphalos, his family have been holding regular fundraisers to express their thanks.

For the past five years, they have organised an annual horse and dog show at Rodbaston College in Penkridge, from which they have raised the impressive £32,000 total.

"We do it to help other families," said Kieron's grandmother Pat, who has now become an ambassador for the hospital. "We will continue to raise money for the hospital, but it will never be enough to pay them back for what they did for us."

Kieron is now a happy and healthy eight-year-old, but determined to gather more funds for the hospital, his big sister Kara, 10, and mum Tina, 44, decided to have their hair cut short for the first time on Sunday.

From Kara's loss of 10 inches of hair and Tina's crop of around nine inches, they raised £709.

Their chopped locks will also be donated to the Little Princess Trust, which makes wigs for young cancer patients.

Following the latest successful horse and dog show on May 29, Pat is already busy organising next year's event, as well as working with the fire and rescue service to put on a charity ball for the hospital.

"It all takes a lot of organising, but every time we go back to the hospital to hand over a cheque, it makes it all worth it," she said.

Measuring the length to be cut

Kara sporting her shorter hair

MP's praise for association

A BLACK Country MP paid a visit to a deaf association to look at the wide range of services on offer.

Halesowen & Rowley Regis MP, James Morris, recently visited Sandwell Deaf Community Association, which supports deaf people and gives them a place to socialise and communicate with one another.

The centre in Daggar Lane was established in 2003 by 200 local residents who are either deaf or have a hearing impairment in the Sandwell area. Mr Morris met with trustees, volunteers and users to tour the centre, view the facilities available, including British Sign Language courses, and talked about the issues facing deaf people in Sandwell. He listened to the concerns raised and suggestions on how best to engage with those who are deaf or hard of hearing.

He said: "During my visit I was really impressed with the dedication and commitment of those who make the Sandwell Deaf Community Association a local success. Staff and volunteers showed real engagement and showcased a wide range of services available."

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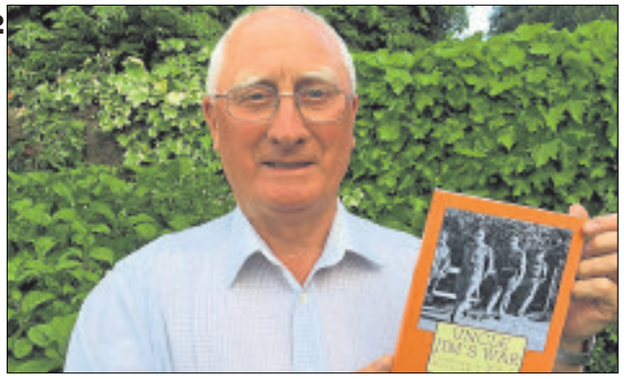

Graham Wilkins with a copy of 'Uncle Jim's War'

Jim with King George, General Miles Dempsey and Monty

Jim, arrowed, seen with his army comrades, at Chateau Cruelly on July 14, 1944

Author on the trail of Uncle Jim's wartime adventures and heroics

"IT was so typical of the time, an ordinary hard working person being called up to fight, changing their life forever in the process."

A Walsall author has written the incredible story of his uncle's time on the front line during the Second World War.

Jim Shaw, a 'quiet and hard working man', was wounded three times and missing believed killed for two weeks after going ashore on Gold Beach on D-day.

He eventually returned home safely, but never spoke about his time in the Army with his family.

Jim had been a member of two different regiments during his time, firstly with the South Staffordshire Regiment, before moving on to the East Yorkshire Regiment.

After his death aged 94, nephew Graham Wilkins was given permission to access his service records and has spent 5000 hours over the last five years compiling information to put together 'Uncle Jim's War'.

MEMORY LANE

By Jordan Harris

Graham said: "Uncle Jim was an ordinary Walsall man. He was quiet, hardworking when in 1940 when he was called up to do his duty for King and country.

"When I look at his early photos, it strikes me as strange that this innocent looking young man could make such a sacrifice for his country.

"Our family did not know any of the detail of the battles he had been engaged in because he would never speak about it except to say how terrible the war was.

"After demob he was content to resume life as an ordinary working man never seeking any promotion greater than lowly worker."

After speaking with Jim's two sons, Graham tracked down his uncle's service records, going on to track his path throughout the war.

He discovered that Jim, who was called up to the Army aged 24 and achieved the rank of private, had been involved in some of the most famous battles, taking him across North Africa, Sicily, France, Holland, Belgium and more.

Among others, he was involved in the Siege of Tobruk, the First Battle of Alamein, the Battle of Gazala and the Allied Invasion of Sicily.

Graham said: "We all agreed it would be great to find out more about Jim's life in the Army, because we were all so proud.

"Once I had the service records I was able to trace his regiments, their movements and engagements, and with this information I was able to trace the appropriate daily war diaries from the National Archives and track his path through the six years duration of the war.

"The results were amazing. He was involved in some of the most famous battles of the war including three seaborne invasions. On D-Day he was one of the first to land on Gold beach.

"A couple of weeks later he was reported 'missing believed killed' when I asked him about it all he would say is 'we got lost' but it was much more than that."

Jim's time in the forces put him in touch with royalty on more than one occasion.

A picture in the book shows him saluting King George IV, prior to the King knighting General Miles Dempsey on the battlefield.

When the war was over, it didn't end for Jim, who was sent to Norway to help with the surrender of 85,000 German soldiers who it was feared might not surrender and take over Norway in Operation Doomsday.

His work here led him to receive a letter of thanks from King Olav V.

Graham's attempts to track down more about his uncle's past brought out a 'reflective' side to him and brought back happy memories of the man he calls 'my favourite uncle'.

He said: "It was emotional at times and always hard work but I am immensely proud of the results. Everyone in the family agrees that it is a lovely tribute."

Uncle Jim's War is available on Amazon.

A young Jim Shaw, 'a quiet and hard working man'

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EIGHT LOCKS REVAMP PART TWO OPENS ON MONDAY

Following on from the successful opening of BJD Sheds last week in the refurbished Eight Locks House, TANAHOLICS, opens this coming Monday. Manageress Debbie Asbury is opening the tanning shop on Monday morning with special offers available for the first week to her new clients.

The offer is one of the best in town as you can purchase a block of 60 minutes for £10. The minutes can be then used as the customer wishes as the beds can be booked for three, six or nine minutes.

The shop will be open Monday to Friday 9am - 8pm, Saturday 9am - 5pm and Sunday 11am - 5pm.

Debbie says she has state of the art sunbeds, having purchased a Tansun Symphony stand up bed and a Megason 4000 lie down bed.

Tanaholics will also be offering beauty and nail packages in the very near future.

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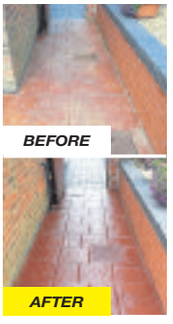

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A tall order for fun to mark Queen's 90th

Celebrating the royal milestone at Park Hill Primary in Wednesbury, from left, Ryan Nelson, Riley Perry and Georgia Price

STILT walkers raised smiles as a Black Country school celebrated the Queen's 90th birthday.

Pupils at Park Hill Primary School in Wednesbury got into the party spirit with street food and also received commemorative coins. Although originally planned to take place outside, last Monday's downpours forced staff to take the celebrations inside.

The event was well-received with pupils enjoying the visit from stilt walkers Ryan Nelson and Georgia Price.

Lisa Humphries, Parent Teacher Association events co-ordinator, said: "It was a non-uniform day and there were stilt walkers, which all the kids loved.

"We always try to mark occasions on these celebratory days and the whole school gets involved.

"Hopefully with the coins, the children will have something to always remember the occasion.

"We've had good feedback from some of the children's moms on Facebook."

Park Hill Primary School is a trust school, admitting 30 pupils each year into reception with a 60 place nursery.

Aldi eyes up town site for a large store

ALDI has submitted a planning application to build a large supermarket in Great Barr, creating 40 jobs.

The German retail giant is hoping to bring a 17,200 sq ft outlet to Old Horns Crescent near Asda and has now entered a formal bid to Birmingham City Council.

By Carl Jackson

Planning documents declare the new shop will be a modern design and state: "Aldi have adapted their design philosophy in recent years to reflect the importance now given to good design in government planning policy and to consolidate the image of the company as an innovative, high quality retailer.

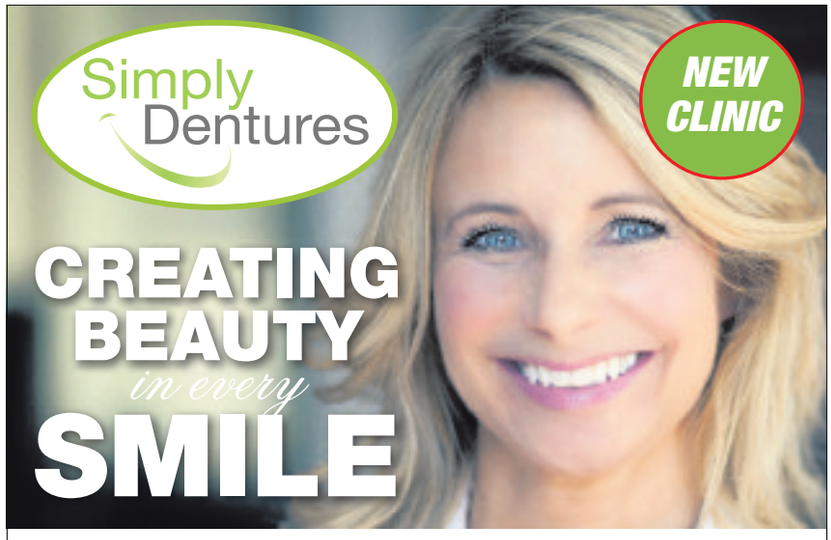
"Aldi's building design is now more flexible in its approach, seeking to achieve an appropriate compromise between the retention of corporate identity and trading profile, the desire to create stimulating modern buildings and the need for environmental design.

"The entrance is to have a large glazed shopfront and canopy providing focus to the main elevation. The illuminated canopy also provides a covered area over the trolley store and bicycle stands." There will be around 85 car parking spaces for shoppers including six disabled slots and six allocated for parent and child spaces.

There will also be five bicycle hoops. Aldi stated they could introduce limits and restrictions on drivers if necessary which would be monitored by Parking Eye.

It is expected around 40 jobs will be created by the new supermarket. Aldi held a public consultation on the plans at Pheasey Park Farm Community Centre back in January.

The main concern raised by locals surrounded potential traffic pressure on the roundabout which links Queslett Road, Beacon Road and Aldridge Road.



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In the recent Ofsted report, it was noted that: everyone's talents and skills are noticed and nurtured

From starting points that are generally below average, pupils do exceptionally well and reach standards that are in line with, and increasingly above, age-related expectations at the end of Year 6

Leadership within and beyond the school is kind, supportive

Outstanding becomes a habit in Smethwick

SHIRELAND Hall Primary Academy is an 'exceptional' school with 'fabulous' and 'inventive' teachers according to the recent Ofsted report that judged the school to be 'outstanding' overall.

This is the second outstanding judgement for Allan Shephard and his team, coming little more than a year after the other school in the Smethwick federation, George Betts Primary Academy, was judged to have outstanding leadership and behaviour.

Both schools have been part of the Elliot Foundation since 2013 and this latest judgement is the sixth 'outstanding overall' from 14 Ofsted inspections.

Although drawn from comparatively small numbers, 42 per cent across the trust is three times higher than the national average for deprived primary schools and four times higher than the West Midlands' average.

Ofsted inspectors said:

- The quality of leadership at this school is superb. Leaders expect and get the best from everyone.
- Everyone's talents and skills are noticed and nurtured
- From starting points that are generally below average, pupils do exceptionally well and reach standards that are in line with, and increasingly above, age-related expectations at the end of Year 6.
- Across the school, there is a climate of trust. Leaders listen to staff and encourage new ideas. There is a strong culture of accountability yet no fear of failure.
- Leadership at every level, within and beyond the school, demonstrates a kind, supportive, purposeful authority, underpinned with high expectations and an ambition for all to do their best. They have established a culture of trust and respect that is understood by staff and pupils alike.

Elliot Foundation CEO, Hugh Greenway, said: "I am bowled over by what Allan and his team have achieved. That quote about his leadership being kind, supportive and purposeful – it just doesn't get any better than that.

"Everyone involved with the school should be so proud!"

- For further information about the Federation of George Betts and Shireland Hall Primary Academies please contact allan.shephard@georgebetts.sandwell.sch.uk

For more information on the Elliot Foundation please contact hugh.greenway@elliotfoundation.co.uk

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Shireland Hall Primary Academy

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Home suffers extensive damage following blaze

A BLAZE has caused extensive damage throughout a home in Rowley Regis.

After West Midlands Fire Service received an emergency call at 10.45am on Sunday, June 12, two pumps from Oldbury Fire Station were rushed to attend the house fire on Sandford Avenue.

Two breathing apparatus were used, while firefighters with one hose reel were able to bring the fire under control. A clean-up followed after the fire caused 100 per cent smoke damage to the property.

The cause is believed to have been a faulty electrical appliance, and as a precaution both electricity and gas supplies at the property were isolated.

Boiler

A spokesman for West Midlands Fire said that no injuries were reported to any of the occupants, and that no other emergency services were called to the scene.

The devastation caused by the blaze was revealed in photos shared on Twitter by Oldbury Fire Station.

One photo shows what appears to be the burnt out remains of a boiler removed out into the garden, while the walls of the kitchen are completely blackened, and counters covered with the charred remains of unrecognisable household items. A broken and blackened microwave is also visible amongst the wreckage.

However, the situation could have been much worse. In a tweet Oldbury Fire Station said: "Swift and assertive actions prevented any escalation. #rtb"

The RTB hashtag refers to the ongoing 'Reasons to Believe' initiative by West Midlands Fire Service. This aims to put a spotlight on work carried out

Part of a boiler which was removed

The devastation in side the kitchen

Have a say over transport

PASSENGERS in Sandwell have the chance to give transport chiefs their views about the area's network.

The 'your public transport matters' event takes place between 10am and noon at West Bromwich bus station tomorrow, Friday. It will enable the travelling public to talk directly with representatives from Network West Midlands and Centro.

Local councillors who represent Sandwell on Centro's Transport Delivery Committee (TDC) and staff from bus and rail operators will also be invited. Feedback from members of the public will be looked at closely by transport bosses and used to make improvements to the local bus and rail network.

Councillor John McNicholas, the chairman of the TDC, said: "We hope to hear from as many people as possible. We are particularly interested in hearing how we can improve connections between different forms of public transport."

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School Inspection, May 2016

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HOME VISITS AVAILABLE

Man found slumped in van banned

A MAN who was found slumped over the wheel of a van with the engine running, in a McDonald's car park, having taken cocaine, has been banned from the roads.

Jamie Costin was also nearly twice the drink-drive limit when police were called to the fast-food restaurant in Great Bridge, Tipton, magistrates in Sandwell heard.

Police were called by people at McDonald's who feared for his health. The headlights of his Vauxhall Astra van were on and the engine was running.

A bag of cocaine was found on his dashboard.

Costin, of Spring Head, Wednesbury, pleaded guilty to possession of a class A drug and drink-driving. He was banned from driving for 19 months and fined £365. He was also told to pay court costs of £161.50.

Celebrating our dialect

A BOOK and DVD which has been produced as part of a project to celebrate the dialect of the Black Country will be launched next month.

The launch event for Where's Our Spake Gone? will be at Dudley Archives and Local History Centre in Tipton Road on July 2 from 1pm to 4pm. The project received Heritage Lottery funding to record the way people speak in Tipton, Gornal, Oldbury and Cradley Heath.

Former mayor's fantastic total tops a lifetime of charity work

In the swing of things for right royal occasion

Deputy Mayor, Susan Downing, with nurse Hajinder Sandhu, and daughters Ravneet and Jasleen

All ready to mark the Queen's milestone birthday, members of staff at Newbury Manor nursing home, don their union jack T-shirts

SANDWELL deputy mayor Susan Downing and Sergeant-in-Arms Kennedy Brown helped an Oldbury nursing home mark the Queen's birthday at an indoor street party.

Newbury Manor nursing home hung up the flags and bunting for a special celebration, with staff and residents getting into the patriotic mood to sing the National Anthem, before the deputy mayor, Councillor Downing, was presented with a bouquet of flowers. She then joined residents for a sit-down buffet.

The nursing home manager said she was pleased with how the day had been organised and praised the hard work that the staff had put into decorating the lounge.

The fun started at noon and went on till 3pm when local entertainer Johnny Tarrino sang songs from the 1940s and 50s era, including Frank Sinatra numbers, to make things go with a swing. Also attending were some representatives of Sandwell College and a hairdresser, to help residents spruce themselves up for the day.

Staff member Joyce Sims added that she wanted to thank Sainsbury's, the Lakeside restaurant, Batley's cash and carry and the local butcher for help with donations to raffle off, raising money for the resident fund.

THE former Mayor of Dudley, who works at an Oldbury chemicals firm, has raised more than £40,000 for charity in just one year.

Councillor Steve Waltho has crammed in hundreds of civic engagements, fundraising events and other activities during his Mayoral year which ended last month. But he has raised far more over the years, totting up to well over £250,000.

Councillor Steve Waltho

The year's efforts includes a record-breaking Mayor's charity ball, a London Marathon, a climb up Ben Nevis and a range of other events to help generate the cash for his five charities. People have also been donating online via the Mayor's BT My Donate charity page which has raised over £1,000 this year.

But the year is dwarfed by the hundreds of thousands of pounds Councillor Waltho has managed to raise for charity over more than 40 years.

From climbing Mount Kilimanjaro to setting up snooker and table tennis marathons he has done it all in the name of charity, raising more than £250,000 for worthy causes along the way.

All of these treks and stunts have been carried out while juggling his role serving his community as a dedicated local councillor for more than 18 years with Dudley Council and holding down a full time shift job at chemical manufacturers Solvay in Oldbury who kindly allowed him a year's release to undertake his Mayoral duties.

Steve, now 60, first took the step into public service as a councillor following the loss of his father in 1990. Looking to channel his energies into putting something back into the community, he wanted to do more to ensure health and social care services were as good as they should be for the country's ageing population.

He was first elected as a local councillor back in 1996 where he served the Wordsley ward just outside Stourbridge for eight years. He even takes charity into his professional life. Throughout all his time serving the public and raising funds for charity he has worked at Solvay (formerly Albright & Wilson) for 42 years.

During this time he was instrumental in setting up a 'payroll charity giving scheme'.

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Here we go again!

Mamma Mia hits stage

See Page 19

Gold-en

See Page 18

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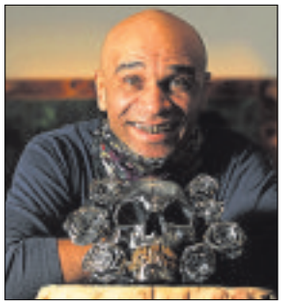


Saturday, 9.30pm
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath
Gig of the week sees the Black Country's drum 'n' bass supremo, this year given an MBE for services to young people and music, in Brum for a late night show.
Visit **hareandhoundskingsheath.co.uk**

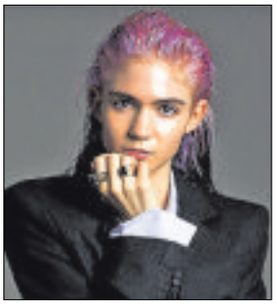
John Bramwell

Thursday (30th), 7.30pm
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath
A solo gig by the Mancunian singer-songwriter from acclaimed trio I Am Kloot, as endorsed by friend and producer Guy Garvey of Elbow. Dave Fidler supports.
See **hareandhoundskingsheath.co.uk**

Swap!

Tuesday to Saturday, 2.30pm/7.30pm
Grand Theatre, W'ton
Return of the Saint actor Ian Ogilvy has written and directed this comedy set on the Costa Del Crime, featuring David Callister from The Bill.
Visit **grandtheatre.co.uk**

Grimes



Friday, 6pm
02 Academy, B'ham
Rearranged date for maverick Canadian synth pop singer-songwriter Claire Elise Boucher, better known as Grimes, who has hit the big time with her fourth studio album Art Angels.
See **academymusicgroup.com**

POP

D-ran D-ran: Duran Duran Tribute
Tomorrow at 7.30pm,
The Robin 2 Hotel, Bilston,
WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Grimes
Tonight at 6pm - 10pm,
O2 Academy Birmingham,
B1 1DB.
Call 0121 622 8250

Dexys Bootleg Runners: Dexys Midnight Runners Tribute
Tonight at 7pm,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Big Girls Don't Cry: A Tribute To Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons
Tonight at 7.30pm,
Palace Theatre, Redditch,
B98 8AE.
Call 01527 65203

The Sounds Of Simon: A Tribute To Simon And Garfunkel
Tomorrow at 7.30pm,
The Rose Theatre, Broadwaters,
Kidderminster, DY10 2RX.
Call 01562 743745

Never 42: Level 42 Tribute
Wed at 7.30pm,
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,
SY3 8FT.
Call 01743 281281

Navi: Michael Jackson Tribute
Tonight at 7.30pm,
The Robin 2 Hotel, Bilston,
WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

ROCK & METAL

The Machine Rages On
Sun at 7pm,
The RoadHouse Birmingham,
Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.
Call 0121 246 2273

The Elvis Years: Elvis Tribute
Tonight at 7.30pm,
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,
SY3 8FT.
Call 01743 281281

Ritchie Blackmore's Rainbow
Tomorrow at 7.30pm,
Genting Arena, Birmingham,
B40 1NT.
Call 0121 780 4141

Korn Again And Stiff Bizkit
Tomorrow at 7pm,
The RoadHouse Birmingham,
Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.
Call 0121 246 2273

John Bramwell
Thu at 7.30pm,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Whitesnake UK: Tribute
Tonight at 7pm, £10 - £12
The Slade Rooms,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

Gary Mullen: Queen Tribute
Tomorrow at 7.30pm,
Prince Of Wales Centre,
Cannock, WS11 1DE.
Call 01543 578762

Kirvana: A Tribute To Nirvana
Tomorrow at 7pm,
The Slade Rooms,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

Jeff Lynne's ELO
Tonight at 7pm,
Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham,
B1 2AA.
Call 0121 780 4141

Cliff & The Shadz: Cliff Richards And The Shadows Tribute
Sun at 8.30pm, £10 - £12
The Robin 2 Hotel, Bilston,
WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Fleetwood Bac: Fleetwood Mac Tribute
Tonight at 7pm, £8 - £16
The RoadHouse Birmingham,
Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.
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JAZZ, SOUL, FUNK, BLUES & MOTOWN

Jazzlines Free Gigs: Didier
Tonight at 5pm,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

Chantel McGregor
Wed at 7.30pm,
The Robin 2 Hotel, Bilston,
WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Motown Party Night: The Conmitments
Tomorrow at 7pm,
Oakengates Theatre, Telford,
TF2 6EP.
Call 01952 382382

Kenny G
Tue at 7.30pm,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

George Benson
Mon at 7.30pm,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

COUNTRY, FOLK & ACOUSTIC

Fotheringay
Tue at 7.30pm,
The Robin 2 Hotel, Bilston,
WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

HIP HOP, RAP & RNB

Brandy
Tomorrow at 7pm - 11pm,
O2 Academy Birmingham,
B1 1DB.
Call 0121 622 8250

Saul Williams
Tonight at 6pm - 10pm,
The Institute, Digbeth,
Birmingham, B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

CLASSICAL

Tcha Limberger's Kalotaszeg Trio
Thu at 8pm,
mac, Birmingham,
B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra
Sun at 3pm,
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,
SY3 8FT.
Call 01743 281281

Commonwealth Cultural Extravaganza In Honour Of HM The Queen's 90th Birthday
Tomorrow at 7pm,
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

The Sons Of Pitches
Sun at 7.30pm - 10pm,
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra – The Planets: An HD Odyssey
Tomorrow at 7.30pm,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

CLUBBING

Propaganda
Tonight - tomorrow at 10.30pm - 3.30am,
O2 Academy Birmingham,
B1 1DB.
Call 0121 622 8250

Tronika Pres: Dark Chambers
Tomorrow - Sun at 10pm - 3am,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,
Birmingham,
B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Goldie
Tomorrow at 9.30pm - 3am,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

COMEDY

Matt Hale: 100% Chicken Free
Thu at 7.30pm,
mac, Birmingham,
B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

Sara Pascoe: Animal
Sun at 7.30pm,
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,
SY3 8FT. Call 01743 281281

Thursday Night Comedy Carousel
Thu at 8pm,
The Glee Club, Birmingham,
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The Best In Live Stand-up Comedy
Tonight at 8.15pm, Tomorrow at 8.15pm,
The Glee Club, Birmingham,
B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

EdinBrum Previews: Will Franken & David Trent
Thu at 7.30pm,
mac, Birmingham, B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

Rough Works: New Material Night
Sun at 7pm,
The Glee Club, Birmingham,
B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

Comedy Club
Sun at 7pm,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Comedy In The Met
Tomorrow at 8pm,
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,
ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

OTHER EVENTS

The Autism Show
Tomorrow at 10am - 4.30pm,
The NEC Birmingham, B40 1NT.
Call 0121 780 4141

Kings Heath Food Assembly
Tue at 7.30pm - 9pm,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Sports Show
Tomorrow - Sun,
The NEC Birmingham, B40 1NT.
Call 0121 780 4141

Birmingham Royal Ballet: Class On Stage
Tomorrow at 11.45am, £10
Birmingham Hippodrome,
B5 4TB.
Call 0844 338 5000

Paint Your Own Miniature
Tomorrow at 11am - 4pm,
Barber Institute of Fine Arts,
University of Birmingham,
Edgbaston, B15 2TS.
Call 0121 414 7333

THEATRE

Birmingham Royal Ballet: The Moor's Pavane/The Shakespeare Suite/The Sonnets
Tonight at 7.30pm, Tomorrow at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, £10 - £26
Birmingham Hippodrome,
B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

Gangsta Granny
Tue at 10am, 1.30pm, Wed at 10am, 1.30pm, Thu at 10am, 1.30pm,
New Alexandra Theatre,
Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

A Variety Performance In Aid Of BCHC
Sun at 7.15pm,
New Alexandra Theatre,
Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

HLC Dance Fest 2016
Tue at 7pm,
Oakengates Theatre, Telford,
TF2 6EP.
Call 01952 382382

Macbeth
Wed at 7.30pm,
Oakengates Theatre, Telford,
TF2 6EP.
Call 01952 382382

Rehearsal For Murder
Mon at 7.30pm, Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm,
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,
SY3 8FT.
Call 01743 281281

Swap!
Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm,
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,
WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 573320

Chicago
Tonight at 7.30pm, Tomorrow at 7.30pm,
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,
WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 573320

Birmingham Royal Ballet: Shakespeare Triple Bill
Tonight at 7.30pm, Tomorrow at 2.30pm, 7.30pm,
Birmingham Hippodrome,
B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

Be Festival 2016
Tonight at 7pm, Tomorrow at 7pm,
Birmingham Repertory Theatre,
B1 2EP.
Call 0121 236 4455

Mamma Mia
Tue at 7.30pm - 10pm, Wed at 2.30pm - 5.30pm, 7.30pm - 10pm, Thu at 7.30pm - 10pm,
£28 - £60
Birmingham Hippodrome,
B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

Summer Dreaming
Tonight at 7.30pm,
Oakengates Theatre, Telford,
TF2 6EP.
Call 01952 382382

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star

Oh Mamma Mia! It's a blockbuster

WEST End and movie hit Mamma Mia! is coming to Birmingham as part of its first UK tour.

The tale of family, friendship and romance on a Greek island, with a unbeatable soundtrack of ABBA hits, will bring sunshine and smiles to the city all summer as on Tuesday it starts a run that lasts until September 3.

To date, the blockbuster show has been seen by more than 54 million people in 49 productions in 14 different languages.

Meanwhile, Mamma Mia! The Movie is the highest worldwide grossing live-action musical film of all time with one in four UK households owning the DVD, Amazon UK's biggest selling DVD ever.

Wedding

From West End to global phenomenon, Mamma Mia! is one of only five musicals to have run for more than 10 years both on Broadway and in the West End.

Five years ago it became the first Western musical to be staged in Mandarin in the People's Republic of China.

Mamma Mia! tells the story of Sophie, a 20-year-old girl who has been brought up by her mother on a Greek Island. With her wedding fast approaching, she trawls through her mother's diaries to find out who her father is, in the hope she can invite him to the wedding to walk her down the aisle.

But Sophie gets more than she bargains for when she discovers there are three potential fathers and then they all arrive on the island that they last visited 20 years before, much to her mother Donna's surprise.

With music & lyrics by Benny Andersson & Björn Ulvaeus, Mamma Mia! is written by Catherine Johnson, directed by Phyllida Lloyd and choreographed by Anthony Van Laast.

Lucy May Barker stars as Sophie Sheridan with Sara Poyzer as her mother Donna Sheridan.

For tickets see www.birmingham hippodrome.com or call 0844 338 5000.

Dancing queens – Emma Clifford, Sara Poyzer and Jacqueline Braun in a scene from the touring production of Mamma Mia! Photo: Brinkhoff/Mögenburg

Gangsta Gran rides again

THE play version of David Walliams' hit children's book Gangsta Granny returns to Birmingham next week.

Following a successful run in December, the story about a granny and grandson's plot to steal the Crown Jewels is being staged at the New Alexandra Theatre from Monday to Saturday.

The production by the city's own Birmingham Stage Company, acclaimed producers of the Horrible Histories plays, was a family favourite hit with audiences.

Walliams, who is one of the judges on the popular Britain's Got Talent TV show, creator of the ground-breaking comedy series Little Britain and star of the recent BBC TV Agatha Christie series Partners in Crime, has now also become the best-selling author for children in the country and Gangsta Granny is his most popular book.

He began his publishing career in 2008 with his debut novel The Boy in the Dress. Then, after two other popular stories, in 2011Gangsta Granny was shortlisted for both The Red House Children's Book Award and for the Roald Dahl Funny Prize.

At Christmas 2013 a TV version of Gangsta Granny was shown on BBC One with an all-star cast, including David Walliams himself.

Gangsta Granny went straight to number one in the children's book charts and his books have been translated into no fewer than 30 languages.

David Walliams said: "It's the most popular of all my books and I am sure this production by the brilliant Birmingham Stage Company will delight not just children but their parents and, of course, grandparents'.

Children's choirs in Romany Wood

MASSED choirs from primary and preparatory schools across Birmingham will be joining forces for a performance of Romany Wood at the city's Symphony Hall at 6pm tomorrow (Friday).

The 40-minute musical created especially for children by David Gaukroger and David Carr is being performed to raise money for Birmingham Children's Hospital.

The young voices will be joined by the King Edward's School and King Edward VI High School for Girls' Symphony Orchestra.

Tickets cost £5 or £8 for the concert which also features Shostakovich's Festive Overture. See the thsh.co.uk website.

Rock legend Ritchie in one-off UK gig

FANS of classic rock will be heading to the NEC's Genting Arena on Saturday night for a one-off UK show by Ritchie Blackmore's Rainbow.

One of only three European shows, it will see guitarist Blackmore and his band performing anthems by Rainbow and his first major group Deep Purple. The line-up also includes Lords Of Black singer Ronnie Romero, Stratovarius keyboardist Jens Johansson, Bob Nouveau on bass and David Keith drums. Support from Mostly Autumn.

Texan boogie rock legends ZZ Top have a sold out gig at Birmingham's O2 Academy tonight (Thursday).

Back to 60s folk at Bilston venue

BLACK Country fans of 1960s British folk-rock are in for a treat with three giants of the genre visiting Bilston's Robin 2 venue next week.

On Tuesday it hosts the reunited Fotheringay featuring original members Jerry Donohue, Gerry Conway and Pat Donaldson with singers, Kathryn Roberts and The Voice's Sally Barker, with songs performed by the late Sandy Denny. Then Jacqui McShee brings 60s folk-jazz favourites Pentangle to the Robin on Thursday, June 30, with support from Magna Carta featuring prog rock-folk veteran Chris Simpson. See therobin.co.uk website.

Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, June 23, 2016

CHOICE

Derek Thompson

Casualty (BBC1, 9.25pm)
In the 1000th episode of the medical drama, Elle prepares for a busy night shift, but finds her colleagues still resent her for Charlie's dismissal. She resolves to regain their trust, and takes on a particularly challenging case involving a pregnant woman who is refusing treatment that may be urgently needed to save her baby. Charlie is reunited with Duffy, who returns to Holby as an agency nurse, Iain panics as Rita tells everyone they have got back together, and romance blossoms between Glen and Robyn at the mortality cafe.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Mary Berry's Absolute Favourites. (R) **12.00** BBC News; Weather. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **1.30** MOTD: Euro 2016 Live. Group A runner-up v Group C runner-up (Kick-off 2.00pm). Gary Lineker introduces coverage of the opening match of the last 16, from the Stade Geoffroy-Guichard in Saint-Etienne. Subsequent programmes subject to change. **4.00** Flog It! (R) **4.30** MOTD: Euro 2016 Live. Group B winner v third-place qualifier (Kick-off 5.00pm). Gary Lineker presents coverage of the second match of the last 16, held at the Parc des Princes in Paris. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

7.10 BBC News.

7.20 Regional Programme.

7.30 MOTD: Euro 2016 Live. Group D winner v third-place qualifier (Kick-off 8.00pm). Gary Lineker introduces coverage of the last-16 match, staged at the Stade Bollaert-Delelis in Lens. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

10.05 The National Lottery Live. Kate Garraway presents as the all-important winning numbers are revealed. Plus, as voting begins for this year's National Lottery Awards, the show profiles some of the finalists.

10.15 BBC News; Weather.

10.35 Live at the Apollo. Leading performers on the stand-up circuit share their light-hearted views on modern life in this show recorded before a packed house at London's Hammersmith Apollo; (R) National Lottery Update.

11.20 Film: LA Confidential. (1997) Thriller set in the 1950s, with Russell Crowe, Guy Pearce and Kevin Spacey.

1.30 Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.35** BBC News.

In the event of football not being shown the schedule may run as follows:

1.00 Escape To The Continent (R) **2.00 Flog It!** (R) **3.00 Earth's Natural Wonders** (R) **4.00 Now You See It** (R) **4.30 FILM: Kung Fu Panda (PG/2008) 5.50 Can't Touch This 6.40-7.10 Celebrity Mastermind** (R) **7.30 Pointless Celebrities** (R) **8.20 The National Lottery Live 8.30 The Musketeers 9.25-10.15 Casualty 10.35-11.20 MOTD: Euro 2016 Highlights**

BBC2

6.20 Film: The Miracle of the Bells. (1948) Drama, starring Fred MacMurray and Frank Sinatra. **8.15 Film:** Carve Her Name with Pride. (1958) Fact-based Second World War drama, starring Virginia McKenna. **10.10** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **11.10** Natural World. (R) **12.00** Tom Kerridge's Best Ever Dishes. (R) **12.30** Talking Tennis. **1.15** Tennis from Eastbourne. The Aegon International. All the action from the final at Devonshire Park Lawn Tennis Club in Eastbourne, which was won by Belinda Bencic last year. **4.00** Glastonbury 2016. **5.15** Live Challenge Cup Rugby League. Wigan Warriors v Castleford Tigers (Kick-off 5.30pm).

7.30 Grand Tours of Scotland. Paul Murton visits places connected to poet Robert Burns, the man who made Ayrshire famous. His tour takes him from Alloway, following the Burns trail to Mauchline, before heading for the coast and discovering the delights of Butlin's, bathing and betting.

8.00 Glastonbury 2016. Jo Whiley and Greg James take over the evening's presenting duties at Worthy Farm in Somerset, taking up residence close to the Pyramid Stage to provide viewers with on-the-spot coverage of tonight's most anticipated performances. The pair also provide highlights from throughout the second day of the festival, including sets by Madness, The 1975 and The Last Shadow Puppets. Gemma Cairney, Martin Dougan and Clara Amfo are also on hand to share some of the best music from the rest of Glastonbury's many venues.

9.00 Glastonbury 2016. As excitement builds for this evening's roster of music, Lauren Laverne and Huw Stephens introduce highlights from sets by the likes of Tame Impala, who support this evening's big headline star, and Glasgow synth-pop stars Chvrches. All eyes are bound to be on the Pyramid Stage come 10.15pm, though, as Adele emerges for this evening's headline performance. Once the blue-eyed soul siren's performance concludes, coverage goes back to the BBC studio in the Park area, where Jo Whiley and Mark Radcliffe provide highlights from sets by James Blake and M83.

1.00 MOTD: Euro 2016 Match Replay. **2.40** This Is BBC Two. Preview of upcoming programmes from BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! **6.20** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.30** Dino Dan. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.00** Sooty. (R) **7.15** Super 4. (R) **7.30** Nerds & Monsters. (R) **7.45** Looped. (R) **8.00** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.30** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.30** The Wine Show. **12.40** ITV News; Weather. **1.00** Euro 2016. Group A runner-up v Group C runner-up (Kick-off 2.00pm). Mark Pougatch presents coverage of the opening match of the last 16, from the Stade Geoffroy-Guichard in Saint-Etienne. Subsequent programmes subject to change. **4.00** Euro 2016. Group B winner v third-place qualifier (Kick-off 5.00pm).

7.00 Euro 2016. Group D winner v third-place qualifier (Kick-off 8.00pm). Mark Pougatch presents coverage of the last-16 match, staged at the Stade Bollaert-Delelis in Lens. Reigning champions Spain entered the tournament as favourites to top Group D, despite falling to a surprise 1-0 defeat at home to Georgia in their final warm-up match before departing for France, which may have given Czech Republic, Turkey and Croatia enough belief that they could cause something of a surprise. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

10.15 ITV News; Weather.

10.30 Euro 2016 Highlights. The opening last-16 matches from France, which were staged at the Stade Geoffroy-Guichard in Saint-Etienne, at the Stade de France in Paris and the Stade Bollaert-Delelis in Lens.

11.30 Film: Carry On Don't Lose Your Head. (1966) Comedy spoof.

1.15 Jackpot247. **3.00** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

In the event of football not being shown the schedule may run as follows:

11.30 Rebound (R) **12.30 The Wine Show 1.30 Off Their Rockers** (R) **2.00 ITV News And Weather 2.19 ITV Weather 2.20 FILM: The Incredible Hulk (12/2008) 4.30 Tipping Point** (R) **5.30 ITV News 5.45 ITV News And Weather 6.00 Catchphrase** (R) **7.00 The Chase (R) 8.00 Midsomer Murders** (R) **10.00 ITV News And Weather 10.14 ITV Weather 10.15 Euro 2016 Highlights 11.15 FILM: Carry On Don't Lose Your Head (PG/1966) 1.00-3.00 Jackpot247**

CHANNEL 4

6.05 Salvage SOS. **6.30** Motor Sport: Mobil 1 The Grid. **7.00** Triathlon. **7.30** Motor Sport: Volkswagen Racing Cup. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** The Morning Line. **10.00** Car SOS. (R) **11.00** The Superhumans Show. **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.55** Come Dine with Me. (R) **2.00** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Newcastle and Newmarket. **4.30** A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun. **5.35** Kirstie and Phil's Love It or List It. (R)

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Gogglesprogs. In Shropshire, Toby, Sam and James share a love of video games, while in Neath Ashton adores documentaries though his sister Darcie and cousin Cari both prefer the soaps. In this episode, the young TV viewers give their unique takes on Take Me Out, Countdown and Star Wars. (R)

8.00 Film: Life of Pi. (2012) A writer interviews a man about the extraordinary events of his life. He describes his childhood in India, living in the zoo run by his father, and how the family and their animals were forced to relocate to Canada when he was a teenager. However, during the sea voyage, the ship sank and he was left adrift in a small boat with a ferocious tiger. Ang Lee's adventure based on Yann Martel's novel, starring Suraj Sharma and Irrfan Khan.

10.30 Film: R.I.P.D. (2013) Premiere. A cop killed in the line of duty is recruited by a ghostly police force assigned to battle evil spirits. Fantasy adventure, starring Ryan Reynolds and Jeff Bridges.

12.30 Film: Blue Is the Warmest Colour. (2013) A teenage girl learns to develop her own outlook on life through her long relationship with an older woman. Romantic drama, with Lea Seydoux and Adele Exarchopoulos. **3.30** Hollyoaks. Omnibus. John Paul realises he has missed Father's Day, while Myra falls down the stairs at the school. Nancy and Darren are determined to stop Maxine dating Adam. (R) **5.40** Kirstie's Vintage Gems. Kirstie Allsopp helps Iman and Heather Ahmed to decorate their new home with a vintage 1920s-inspired theme and highlights the perks of second-hand furniture. (R) **5.55** The King of Queens. Doug's bowling team has to win the next match. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **8.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **9.30** The Saturday Show Live. **11.40 Film:** Star Trek: Insurrection. (1998) **1.40 Film:** Columbo: The Conspirators. (1978) Detective drama, starring Peter Falk. **3.40 Film:** Columbo: Playback. (1975) Crime drama, with Peter Falk. **5.10** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R)

6.10 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Brian O'Shaughnessy and Graham Aldred's first case sees them in a Brighton health spa as they search for assets to seize in pursuit of a £20,000 debt. Following a stand-off, they devise a way to work with the owner and her professional advisers to come up with a solution. Later, Graham reveals his softer side when he revisits a woman who defaulted on a debt payment plan. (R)

7.10 NCIS: Los Angeles. Callen and Sam investigate when an ex-marine is killed by an explosive device hidden in his mobile phone and discover the other members of his bomb disposal unit are also in danger. (R)

8.00 NCIS. Gibbs is taken aback to discover Tony's father is linked to the team's latest investigation, a politically sensitive case involving an assassination attempt on Prince Sayif, a visiting Saudi dignitary with a taste for the high life. (R)

9.00 NCIS. A prostitute and what seems to be one of her clients are gunned down in a drive-by shooting, and when it emerges that the would-be John was actually a Navy officer, Gibbs and DiNozzo realise the killings are connected Lex Tarlionas, an incomplete operation to bring justice to those responsible for an attack on a US airport in 1979, which left 100 people dead. The main suspect is a former Colombian drugs kingpin known as Tomas Orlando, and the murdered sex worker was about to hand over crucial DNA evidence that could have connected him to the crime, but now that she is dead, Gibbs and the others must find another way to finally bring Orlando in.

9.55 5 News Weekend.

10.00 Big Brother. Catching up with the Big Brother contestants as they react to Friday night's live eviction.

11.05 Jason Manford Live. (R)

12.15 SuperCasino. **3.10** Big Brother. (R) **4.00** The Secret Life of Kittens. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 Squeeze & Madness at Glastonbury 2016 **8.00** Baaba Maal & Mbongwana Star at Glastonbury 2016 **9.00** Egypt's Lost Cities **10.30** New Order & Philip Glass's Heroes Symphony at Glastonbury 2016 **12.30** Synth Britannia at the BBC **1.30** Top of the Pops: 1982 **2.00** When Albums Ruled the World **3.30** Close

ITV2

12.25 Ninja Warrior UK **1.30 Film:** The Perfect Man (2005) **2.30** FYI Daily **2.35 Film:** The Perfect Man (2005) **3.35 Film:** Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore (2010) **4.35** FYI Daily **4.40 Film:** Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore (2010) **5.15 Film:** Along Came Polly (2004) **6.15** FYI Daily **6.20 Film:** Along Came Polly (2004) **7.05 Film:** Rumour Has It (2005) **8.05** FYI Daily **8.10 Film:** Rumour Has It (2005) **9.00** Love Island: The Weekly Hotlist **10.00** Celebrity Juice **10.50** Family Guy **12.20** American Dad! **1.20** The Cleveland Show **2.20** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

11.25 FYI Daily **11.30 Film:** Les Miserables (1978) **12.45** Foyle's War **2.50** Midsomer Murders **7.00** Doc Martin **8.00** Lewis **10.00** Inspector Morse **12.10** The Jury **1.10** City Lights **2.05** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4

11.15 The Saint **12.20** British Touring Car Championship Highlights **1.50** Pawn Stars **2.45 Film:** Police Academy 3: Back in Training (1986) **3.45** FYI Daily **3.50 Film:** Police Academy 3: Back in Training (1986) **4.30 Film:** Superman (1978) **5.30** FYI Daily **5.35 Film:** Superman (1978) **7.30** World Series of Darts: Shanghai **11.30 Film:** Sleepers (1996) **12.30** FYI Daily **12.35 Film:** Sleepers (1996) **2.25** Movies Now **2.35** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

11.30 Baby Daddy **12.30** How I Met Your Mother **1.30** The Goldbergs **4.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00 Film:** Immortals (2011) **11.10** Gogglebox **1.20** Rude Tube: Love Bytes **2.20** The Inbetweeners **3.15** Gogglebox **4.05** New Girl **4.30** Revenge

Film4

11.00 The Last Mimzy (2007) **1.00** Fantastic Mr Fox (2009) **2.40** The Phantom (1996) **4.40** Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (2009) **6.45** I, Robot (2004) **9.00** Bullet to the Head (2012) **10.45** Predator 2 (1990) **12.55** 4.3.2.1 (2010) **3.15** Close

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CHOICE

Anne Alsop

Messages Home: Lost Films of the British Army (Channel 4, 8pm)
Documentary about filmed messages made by British soldiers serving in Burma during the Second World War, which were recently recovered in a Manchester Town Hall basement. The footage features messages from the soldiers to their families at home, including a father speaking to a daughter he has not met, a decorated veteran troubled by the thought of killing, and a gunner longing to return to the woman he loved.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.15** BBC News; Weather. **1.30** MOTD: Euro 2016 Live. Group A winner v third-place qualifier (Kick-off 2.00pm). Gary Lineker introduces coverage of the last-16 match, staged at the Stade de Lyon. Having been drawn alongside Albania, Romania and Switzerland in Group A, tournament hosts France were the hot favourites to be involved in this match, especially as they are considered by many to be favourites to win the tournament. The third-place qualifier will be selected from either groups C, D or E, which means there is a chance that either Northern Ireland or Republic of Ireland could be involved this afternoon. Subsequent programmes subject to change. **4.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.30** MOTD: Euro 2016 Live. Group C winner v third-place qualifier (Kick-off 5.00pm). Gary Lineker presents coverage of the fifth match of the last-16 stage, held at the Stade Pierre Mauroy in Lille. Half of the quarter-final line-up has been decided and the favourites to be involved in this fixture are Germany, who started the tournament as the most fancied side in Group C. Their record in the European Championships is outstanding, but they slipped up in the semi-finals four years ago against an Italian team inspired by maverick striker Mario Balotelli. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

7.00 BBC News.

7.20 Regional Programme.

7.30 MOTD: Euro 2016 Live. Group F winner v Group E runner-up (Kick-off 8.00pm). Subsequent programmes subject to change.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 Room 101 – Extra Storage.

11.15 Film: High Fidelity. (2000)

1.00 Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.05** BBC News.

In the event of football not being shown the schedule may run as follows:

1.30 Homes Under The Hammer (R) **2.30 Flog It!** (R) **3.25 Escape To The Continent** (R) **3.55 Songs Of Praise 4.30 TBA 5.05 Pointless Celebrities** (R) **6.00 BBC News 6.20 Regional News; Weather 6.30 Countryfile 7.30 TBA 8.30 The Musketeers 9.25 Casualty 10.15 BBC News 10.35 Regional News; Weather 10.45 MOTD: Euro 2016 Highlights 11.30 FILM: High Fidelity (15/2000) 1.15 Weather For The Week Ahead 1.20-6.00 BBC News**

BBC2

6.35 Great British Garden Revival. (R) **7.35** Countryfile. (R) **8.35** The Beechgrove Garden. (R) **9.05** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **10.35** Tom Kerridge's Best Ever Dishes. (R) **11.05** A Cook Abroad: John Torode's Argentina. (R) **12.05** Tennis: Wimbledon 2015 Review. **1.00** Live Athletics: British Championships. The third and final day from Birmingham. **5.00** Flog It! (R) **5.30** The Great British Sewing Bee. (R)

6.30 Glastonbury 2016. Mark Radcliffe, Lauren Laverne and Jo Whiley present more highlights from the festival, including Jeff Lynne making his Glastonbury debut on the Pyramid Stage. The programme also features performances by Gregory Porter and Laura Mvula and an acoustic set by Cyndi Lauper, while Gemma Cairney and Martin Dougan report on some of the more obscure areas of the festival.

8.00 Top Gear. Chris Evans and Matt Le Blanc take a trip to Dingle to check out Rolls Royce's new model the Dawn, and put it to the test to see if it can outperform one of the company's most successful cars, the 1976 Cornishe. Rory Reid retraces a historic journey against the clock when he delivers a Jaguar F-type SVR to the Geneva Motor Show, while Chris Harris takes the the new BMW M2 for a test drive. Jennifer Saunders and The Great British Bake Off's Paul Hollywood are this week's Stars in a Rallycross Car.

9.00 Glastonbury 2016. Jo Whiley and Huw Stephens introduce full live coverage Coldplay's performance at the Pyramid Stage, with the group headlining the festival for a record-breaking fourth time. After the set, Mark Radcliffe joins Jo to present some highlights from the third day, including LCD Soundsystem, Guy Garvey and Grimes. Plus, Gemma Cairney delivers a report from the late night world of the festival.

12.00 MOTD: Euro 2016 Match Replay. A full re-run of a match from the last 16 of the tournament in France. **1.40** Sign Zone: Countryfile. The team explores the East Midlands, with Matt Baker travelling down the river Trent in a kayak and Helen Skelton becoming an apprentice at a traditional windmill in Rutland. (R) **2.40** Holby City. Jac is angered when someone steals the patent for the Digby Stent. (R) **3.35** Horizon: How to Find Love Online. (R) **4.35** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! **6.20** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.30** Dino Dan. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.00** Sooty. (R) **7.15** Super 4. (R) **7.30** Nerds & Monsters. (R) **7.45** Looped. (R) **8.00** Teen Titans Go! (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** Griff's Great Britain. (R) **10.00** Peston on Sunday. **11.00** Barging Round Britain with John Sergeant. (R) **11.30** Weekend Escapes with Warwick Davis. (R) **11.55** Catchphrase. (R) **12.40** ITV News. **1.00** Euro 2016. Group A winner v third-place qualifier (Kick-off 2.00pm). **4.00** Euro 2016. Group C winner v third-place qualifier (Kick-off 5.00pm).

7.00 Euro 2016. Group F winner v Group E runner-up (Kick-off 8.00pm). Mark Pougatch presents all the action from the Stadium Municipal in Toulouse, where the sixth last-16 fixture takes place. Four years ago two matches in the knockout stage went to penalties, both after finishing goalless, with Italy beating England in the quarter-finals, and Spain eliminating Portugal in the semi-finals before going on to win the tournament and continue their dominance of international football. The Portuguese are expected to be in action again this evening, given that they were the clear favourites to win Group F, while the Italians were drawn in Group E, arguably the toughest of the six, alongside Sweden, Belgium and the Republic of Ireland.

10.15 ITV News; Weather.

10.30 Euro 2016 Highlights. Action from the latest last-16 matches from France, which were staged at the Stade de Lyon, the Stade Pierre-Mauroy in Lille and the Stadium Municipal in Toulouse.

11.30 Peston on Sunday. (R)

12.30 Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. Action from Thruxton. **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

In the event of football not being shown the schedule may run as follows:

1.00 Planet's Got Talent (R) 1.30 Judge Rinder (R) **2.30 Midsomer Murders** (R) **4.30 The Chase** (R) **5.30 ITV News 5.45 ITV News And Weather 6.00 You've Been Framed! (R) 7.00 Big Star's Little Star** (R) **8.00 Endeavour** (R) **10.00 ITV News And Weather 10.14 ITV Weather 10.15 Euro 2016 Highlights 11.15 Peston On Sunday** (R) **12.15-3.00 Jackpot247**

CHANNEL 4

6.20 Salvage SOS. **6.45** Salvage SOS. **7.05** 24 Hours of Le Mans: World Endurance Championship. **7.30** 24 Hours of Le Mans: World Endurance Championship. **8.00** Frasier. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **8.55** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) **1.30 Film:** Runaway Bride. (1999) Romantic comedy, with Julia Roberts and Richard Gere. **3.50 Film:** One Hundred and One Dalmatians. (1961) Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Betty Lou Gerson. **5.30** Location, Location, Location. (R)

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Penelope Keith at Her Majesty's Service. The actress concludes her journey with a trip to the Queen's royal residences in Wales and exploring the regal links, including ceremonial investitures, Pembrokeshire corgis and the Royal harpist. She pays a visit to Caernarfon Castle, where Prince Charles was invested as Prince of Wales in 1969, and the Royal Mint, as well as Aberfan in the valleys of south-west Wales, which was the site of a disastrous coal mining accident in 1966. On her travels, she meets champion dog breeders and is serenaded by two male voice choirs. Last in the series.

8.00 Messages Home: Lost Films of the British Army. Documentary about recently recovered films made by British soldiers serving in Burma during the Second World War in which they send messages home to their families.

9.00 Film: The Railway Man. (2013) Premiere. A traumatised former prisoner of war gets married, but continues to suffer nightmares about his experiences. He is unable to talk to his wife about his time in captivity, so she tracks down a fellow convict to learn the truth – and discovers the cruel Japanese officer he is fixated on is still alive. Fact-based drama, starring Colin Firth, Nicole Kidman and Stellan Skarsgard.

11.20 Film: The Sixth Sense. (1999) A child psychologist takes on the case of a boy terrified by ghostly apparitions. M Night Shyamalan's supernatural thriller, with Bruce Willis and Toni Collette.

1.15 The Secret World of Tinder. (R) **2.10** Hitler's Hidden Drug Habit. (R) **3.05** French Collection. (R) **4.00** Posh Pawnbrokers. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **6.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Bob the Builder. (R) **6.40** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **6.50** Zack and Quack. (R) **7.05** Pets. (R) **7.10** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **7.20** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.35** Little Princess. (R) **7.50** Pip Ahoy! (R) **8.05** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.30** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.45** Shimmer and Shine. **9.10** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.30** LazyTown. (R) **9.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.30** Now That's Funny! (R) **11.35 Film:** Under the Tuscan Sun. (2003) Romantic comedy drama, with Diane Lane and Raoul Bova. **1.45 Film:** The Horse Whisperer. (1998) Drama, starring Robert Redford. **5.00 Film:** The Deep End of the Ocean. (1999) Drama, starring Michelle Pfeiffer.

6.55 5 News Weekend.

7.00 Cricket on 5. England v Sri Lanka. Mark Nicholas presents highlights of the third one-day international in the five-match series, which took place at The County Ground in Bristol.

8.00 Now That's Funny! A collection of internet-sourced videos with a family friendly hook, featuring a girl struggling with a maths question and some spectacular escape attempts. Plus, the latest stars of the week.

9.00 Big Brother. Daily round-up of highlights, revealing how the housemates are getting on under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother, featuring the latest tasks, games, arguments, laughs, diary room visits and bedroom chit-chat. Narrated by Marcus Bentley.

10.00 Sacrifice. A former surgeon moves to her husband's ancestral home in the Shetland Islands, where she uncovers a corpse in a peat bog. Mystery drama, with Radha Mitchell.

11.50 It's Not Me, It's You. Eamonn Holmes hosts this relationship-based panel show, in which team captains Kelly Brook and Vicky Pattison lead four celebrity guests through a series of games. (R)

12.35 Lip Sync Battle: Stephen Merchant v Malin Akerman. (R) **1.00** SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. **3.10** GPs: Behind Closed Doors. The GPs see patients with sports-related injuries. (R) **4.00** Now That's Funny! Internet-sourced videos with an amusing family friendly hook. (R) **4.50** Wildlife SOS. (R) **5.45** Angels of Jarm. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 The Last Days of Anne Boleyn **8.00** Gregory Porter & Ellie Goulding at Glastonbury 2016 **9.00** PJ Harvey at Glastonbury 2016 **10.00** Earth, Wind & Fire at Glastonbury 2016 **11.30** Big Hits: TOTP 1964 to 1975 **1.00** Wonders of the Universe **2.00** Rise of the Continents **3.00** The Treasure Hunters **4.00** Close

ITV2

1.05 Take Me Out **2.05** Love Island: The Weekly Hotlist **2.35** Catchphrase **3.20 Film:** Beethoven's 2nd (1993) **4.20** FYI Daily **4.25 Film:** Beethoven's 2nd (1993) **5.05 Film:** Charlotte's Web (2006) **6.05** FYI Daily **6.10 Film:** Charlotte's Web (2006) **7.00 Film:** Evan Almighty (2007) **8.00** FYI Daily **8.05 Film:** Evan Almighty (2007) **9.00** Love Island **10.00** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.30** The Cleveland Show **1.30** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **1.55** Planet's Funniest Animals **2.15** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

11.20 Goodbye Mr Chips **1.25 Film:** Columbo: The Bye-Bye Sky-High IQ Murder Case (1977) **3.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **5.05** The Making of a Lady **6.55** Midsomer Murders **9.00** The Bletchley Circle **10.00** Lewis **12.05 Film:** Wimbledon (2004) **1.15** FYI Daily **1.20 Film:** Wimbledon (2004) **1.55** A Touch of Frost **3.40** May the Best House Win **5.25** Judge Judy **5.45** ITV3 Nightscreen

ITV4

12.05 Storage Wars Unlocked **1.00** Storage Wars **2.00** Pawn Stars **3.25 Film:** Superman (1978) **4.25** FYI Daily **4.30 Film:** Superman (1978) **6.20** The Wine Show **7.30** World Series of Darts: Shanghai **11.30** The Darts Mavericks **12.30 Film:** The Boat That Rocked (2009) **1.35** FYI Daily **1.40 Film:** The Boat That Rocked (2009) **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

12.30 Made in Chelsea **1.35** Couples Come Dine with Me **3.35** The Big Bang Theory **9.00 Film:** The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 1 (2011) **11.20** Gogglebox **12.25** The Inbetweeners **1.30** Tattoo Fixers **2.30** Gogglebox **3.25** Hollyoaks

Film4

11.00 Destry Rides Again (1939) **1.00** Chalet Girl (2011) **2.50** Patton (1970) **6.10** Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (2009) **9.00** Die Hard 2 (1990) **11.25** Enemy at the Gates (2001) **2.00** MacGruber (2010) **3.50** Close

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PICK OF THE WEEK

FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
Dark Desire, Channel 5, 3.20pm
A woman trapped in an unhappy marriage suffers further misery when she learns that her student son has died in a tragic accident. She turns to his sympathetic college roommate for solace and they begin an affair - but she gradually realises her lover may have murdered her child. Thriller, starring Kelly Lynch and Nic Robuck. (2012)

WEDNESDAY
The Haunting in Connecticut, Channel 4, 1.30am
A family relocates to an old Victorian house to be closer to a clinic where their son is receiving treatment for cancer. When the teenager begins to suffer strange visions and nightmares, he learns the property was once inhabited by a demonic messenger, who returns to unleash terror on the new residents. Horror, starring Kyle Gallner. (2009)

THURSDAY
Deadly Revenge, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A woman starts a relationship with a seemingly perfect man who has an intense relationship with his mother. She discovers his only previous girlfriend died mysteriously, and becomes consumed with paranoia as she investigates what became of her. Thriller, starring Alicia Ziegler. (2013)

Fallen, Friday, BBC1 11.55pm

FRIDAY
Baby Sellers, Channel 5, 3.20pm
The owner of an adoption agency maintains a respectable reputation, while secretly the children she provides to desperate clients are obtained by illegal means. A customs agent develops suspicions about the criminal network behind the trade in kidnapped infants and tries to expose the scandal. Crime drama, starring Jennifer Finnigan and Kirstie Alley. (2013)
Fallen, BBC1, 11.55pm
A detective investigates a series of grisly murders that mimic the handiwork of an executed serial killer. The case takes a stranger twist when he realises a bloodthirsty disembodied demon is responsible – and that it can leap from one unsuspecting host to another. Supernatural thriller, starring Denzel Washington. (1998)

Who will be this year's ace in the pack?

There's barely been time for tennis fans to recover from Novak Djokovic beating Andy Murray in the French Open final, and now here we are again – as the world's best players return with their all-whites freshly bleached to do battle at the All England Club.

The third Grand Slam of the year on SW19's hallowed grass courts is always one of the highlights of the sporting calendar, and it's an early start for Sue Barker today, as she introduces coverage of the opening day's play.

The action on Centre Court traditionally begins with the men's singles champion beginning the defence of his title.

That man is Djokovic, who goes into the tournament as the heavy favourite after dominating the men's game for the last couple of seasons.

The Serb won his first Wimbledon title in 2011, and famously celebrated by eating a handful of Centre Court grass.

He made the final again in 2013; and in 2014 and 2015 was munching happily on the turf again as he defeated Roger Federer both times to claim back-to-back titles – the first man to do so since Federer's unequalled five-year reign from 2003 to 2007.

Djokovic's four-set defeat of Murray in Paris a fortnight ago saw him become the first man since the great Rod Laver in 1969 to hold all four Grand Slam titles at the same time, and few would bet on him adding to his three Wimbledon successes a week on Sunday.

His main danger is likely to come from world No.2 and 2013 champ Murray, who may trail Djokovic in the head-to-head, but continues to win enough matches against the Serb and push him in the ones he loses to keep his rival and friend honest.

Murray can expect more support than ever this year after capturing the Davis Cup for Great Britain in 2015, and if he can keep heart-stopping five-set epics in the early rounds to a minimum, he could be solid pick to reach the final at the All England Club – where he's beaten Djokovic before.

As far as the women's tournament goes, Serena Williams remains very much the queen the game, but she hasn't won a Grand Slam title since she beat Garbiñe Muguruza on Centre Court 12 months ago.

Her quest for the calendar-year Grand Slam and a 22nd title overall, which would tie Steffi Graf's Open Era record, was unexpectedly derailed by Italian veteran Roberta Vinci in New York last year.

Returning in January at the Australian Open, Williams suffered another surprise defeat to left-hander Angelique Kerber.

So no calendar Slam this year, but the quest for 22 was very much still on, and despite various illness and injury problems Williams stormed to the French Open final for the loss of just one set – only to be defeated by Garbine Muguruza.

On the home front, Johanna Konta has enjoyed a 2016 campaign to remember and the Briton will be hopeful that the partisan crowd can see her reproduce the form which saw her reach the Australian Open semi-final in January.

Sue Barker presents Wimbledon 2016, Monday, BBC2, 11.30am

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
Superfoods: The Real Story
Channel 4, 8.30pm
Kate Quilton returns with the programme that investigates the purported health benefits of superfoods. She visits the Italian city of Naples to explore the potential cancer-busting properties of the humble tomato, before travelling to Japan to find out if the secret of youth is contained in fermented soya beans, and also examines if a glass of red wine can really help boost brain power.

Wentworth Prison
Channel 5, 10pm
Welcome back to Wentworth Prison, the Australian jail where the staff are arguably more dangerous than the inmates. It's been four months since Governor Joan Ferguson murdered Jess Warner and set fire to H Block, and she's now being held in Isolation Protection – which should give her more time to dream up new ways to fabricate her innocence.

TUESDAY
The Living and the Dead
BBC1, 9pm
Fancy a spooky new drama to get your teeth into? Then this series starring Colin Morgan should be just the ticket. When the death of his mother brings Nathan Appleby and his wife Charlotte back to the family estate in Somerset, they must turn the farm's fortunes around or risk ruin, and the devastation of the local community. However, when a vulnerable teenage girl is brought to Nathan, seemingly possessed by a terrifying spirit, he cannot leave her to suffer. He must use every psychological technique he has to find a way to free her from this terrible burden.

WEDNESDAY
Britain's Favourite Dogs
ITV, 8pm
A countdown of the nation's 10 favourite breeds, based on a survey of 1,000 dog owners, discovering how the favourites have changed over the years. The survey also uncovers what makes people fall head over heels for a particular type of dog, with almost a quarter of all households in the UK accommodating one of man's best friends. The programme gets to meet the owners of some of Britain's most outstanding pooches, before revealing which breed emerges as top dog.

The Living and the Dead, Tuesday, BBC1, 9pm

THURSDAY
Ramsay's Hotel Hell
Channel 4, 10pm
New series. Gordon Ramsay uses his wealth of experience in the restaurant business to help more struggling hotels, motels and B&Bs across America, putting the owners and staff to work as he attempts to save their establishments from disaster. He begins with a visit to Angler's Lodge in Island Park, Idaho. Owner Dave Eby built the lodge with his own hands, but a family tragedy has caused him and wife Dede to shy away from the hotel and the community. Gordon is desperate to help mend this broken family – but is it too late to save their business?

FRIDAY
Gogglesprogs
Channel 4, 8pm
Young TV viewers watch a range of programmes, from entertainment shows to documentaries and classic films, as well as up-to-the-minute news reports. In London, childhood friends Shuaib and Janai love watching cartoons together. In Birmingham, mates Edie and Teanna are both in the school book club, and in Leicester are six-year old Geet and her four-year-old brother Hanson, who wants to be a Formula 1 racing driver.

The Last Leg
Channel 4, 10pm
Originally just a nightly Paralympics round-up on Channel 4, this show fronted by Adam Hills, Josh Widdicombe and Alex Brooker, has become a massive success mainly due to it having exactly the right amount of edgy humour to break down barriers over disability and any other topics the public may feel are 'awkward'. So central is this idea to the show that there's even a twitter handle, #isitok, which allows viewers to tweet questions. This provides some of the best moments – partly for confronting the dilemma partly in providing an excuse for Hills, Widdicombe and Brooker to cite the most stupid and/or offensive thing they have recently heard. Tonight the trio are joined by celebrity guests for a comic review of the past seven days, answering more edgy current affairs questions that other shows might duck.

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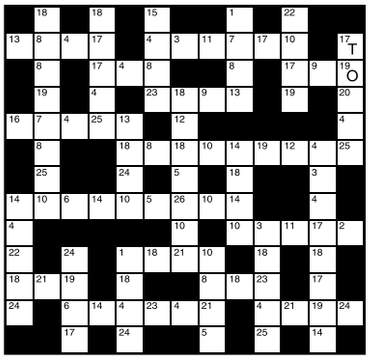
BRAIN GYM No.383

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



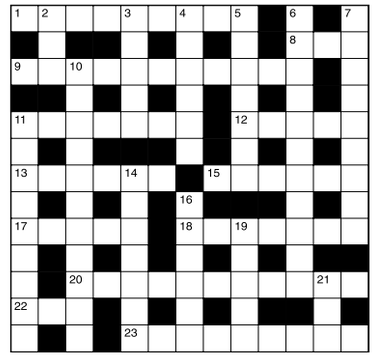
1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17 T
5	18
6	19 O
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Z	K	C	V	P	D	T	L	G	N	Y	F	E
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
U	I	O	R	B	H	J	W	X	M	A	Q	S

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Widespread, as far as one can see (9)
8. Member of some particular minority (3)
9. Be careful on the dodgems, for example? (4,7)
11. Stops work and goes to bed (7)
12. Surpass with some complex cello playing (5)
13. To mother it's a female illness (6)
15. A draughtsman's intention? (6)
17. Mean to a girl (5)
18. What to write about a recital? (7)
20. Lanes that lead out of sight? (5,6)
22. There's nothing in vanilla left (3)
23. String net becomes entangled, leaving no loopholes (9)

Down

2. Turkish officer is against, but not this month (3)
3. Quarrelsome sculler (5)
4. The doctor got up, looking surly (6)
5. He's nice, perhaps, and from the East (7)
6. A ring that can work wonders (5,6)
7. Possibly alum can be for those who are ill (9)
10. You can't take anything like this (11)
11. Causing a trying delay? (9)
14. Books of record I'd brought up to sign (7)
16. It helps you to reach new heights (6)
19. It is in fact a long claw (5)
21. Craving for Japanese money (3)

Quick Clues:

Across

1. Irresolute (9)
8. Deprive (3)
9. Formidable (11)
11. Concentrated (7)
12. Offspring (5)
13. Boggy (6)
15. Gracious (6)
17. Perch (5)
18. Desecrate (7)
20. Feat (11)
22. In bloom (3)
23. Virago (9)

Down

2. Born (3)
3. Vessel for milk (5)
4. Waver (6)
5. Complete collapse (7)
6. Rash (11)
7. Plenty (9)
10. Worsen (11)
11. Ducking (9)
14. Small axe (7)
16. Seem (6)
19. Musical drama (5)
21. Woman in religious order (3)

Sudoku

				1			8	
	1	7			4		6	
		4		6		3		1
	7	2	6		5			8
5								6
6			2		9	7	4	
2		8		9	3	6		
			1					4
	4			7			5	

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

2	6	4	7	5	8	1	3	9
5	1	8	3	4	9	2	7	6
9	7	3	2	1	6	5	4	8
4	9	2	5	6	7	8	1	3
7	8	6	4	3	1	9	5	2
1	3	5	8	9	2	4	6	7
3	4	9	6	8	5	7	2	1
6	2	1	9	7	4	3	8	5
8	5	7	1	2	3	6	9	4

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Uproot; 8 Feline; 10 Shampoo; 11 Genie; 12 Flee; 13 Rates; 17 Might; 18 Page; 22 Error; 23 Mastery; 24 Modest; 25 Portia. Down: 1 Puts off; 2 Breaker; 3 Loops; 4 Reigned; 5 Giant; 6 Level; 9 Not at home; 14 Digress; 15 Talents; 16 New Year; 19 Seems; 20 Crude; 21 Estop. QUICK - Across: 7 Origin; 8 Compel; 10 Besides; 11 Title; 12 None; 13 Topic; 17 Spoil; 18 Solo; 22 Antic; 23 Thought; 24 Paltry; 25 Quiver. Down: 1 Combine; 2 Dissent; 3 Finds; 4 Contain; 5 Spite; 6 Alter; 9 Associate; 14 Spectre; 15 Forgive; 16 Contort; 19 Happy; 20 Still; 21 Bogus.

Thinking space

Quiz

1. Of which words is pixel a contraction?
2. In which county is Scafell Pike?
3. Who played the Catwoman in the film Batman Returns?
4. How is the N American caribou also known?
5. In Greek mythology, of what was Irene the goddess?
6. By what name is the marsupial Sarcophilus harrisii better known?
7. In which castle was Edward II murdered?
8. How many letters are there in the Greek alphabet?
9. At which game was actor Omar Sharif an expert?
10. Which subatomic particle is named after the Greek for 'first'?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Mount Sinai; 2 Peter Cushing; 3 Scotland; 4 Alfred the Great; 5 George Best; 6 Myanmar; 7 Trumpet; 8 A tree or its fruit; 9 Marchioness; 10 Mormonism.

Niner: DEFORMING

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

824 gives a boy's name,
6769 gives a girl's name,
16235 gives another girl's name.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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ISLE OF WIGHT 10, 31 Jul, 7, 28 Aug, 11 Sep
EIRE- COPPER COAST 10 Jul, 7 Aug,

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Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, June 23, 2016

Sweet and spicy – curry shrimp and mango

Jamaican brown chicken one pot with rice

Bright and bold – inside the restaurant

A taste of the Caribbean – Turtle Bay, Birmingham

Turtle may be popular but not sure I would be willing to shell out again

By Lisa Wright

YOU know when you go somewhere for dinner and you have really high expectations. You really want it to be amazing?

That's exactly how I felt about Turtle Bay. I'd heard some really good things from friends and colleagues that had been and so I was really looking forward to my first visit to give the food a try.

I'd popped in for drinks on a few occasions previously and each time not only was the bar packed, but the restaurant heaving with diners. So for a recent family meal, with two small children, it seemed the perfect place – not too pricey, laid back and fun.

What I'd liked most about the venue from previous experience was the holiday feel you got from standing at the bar, sipping a few cocktails and soaking up the colourful Caribbean decor and music. There really was a buzz about the place. And the menu looked really tempting too, and split into a number of different sections depending on what you're after.

I'm a huge fan of Caribbean food with my father hailing from Jamaica and there's a real shortage of restaurants offering the cuisine, so I was looking forward to what was on offer. The menu looked tempting, throwing in some more traditional dishes with those I wasn't expecting to see.

We'd got a table for six people booked for 6.30pm on a Thursday evening and when we arrived it wasn't ready, so we were invited to wait in the entrance area and pointed to a table – a table full of dirty glasses and plates from the previous occupants. Not great.

When our table was ready it took another half an hour for drinks to arrive. If I hadn't been out with the family and two small children I would have walked out already, but we waited patiently. There was no children's menu so my niece and nephew – aged eight and five – chose from the lighter menu, both going for the quarter jerk chicken and chips.

Seasoning

Some of us wanted starters and we went for the beef patty, jerk glazed ribs and chilli fried squid. It took a while for the food to arrive, but when it did it was tasty.

The beef patty was seasoned well and the pastry cooked nicely. The shrimp also went down a treat. The ribs were quite small as a portion, but the meat was tender. However, the jerk seasoning was very spicy – definitely not one for the kids.

For mains, my niece loved her jerk chicken and chips, the chicken was mild and moist. My nephew's fries however, were so overcooked we had to send them back.

My mum wolfed down her curry, shrimp and mango one pot, which was loaded with shrimps, mango and sweet potatoes and got the firm thumbs-up. While my sisters enjoyed their Jamaican browned chicken one pot and the jerk salmon, which was a generous piece of fish with a tasty, crispy skin.

However my dish – the Mo'Bay chicken – was a real disappointment.

The main problem was that the chicken breast had been chargrilled first and then smothered in a creamy sauce. What resulted was just a burnt taste of chicken that the sauce couldn't hide. But my biggest bugbear of the night was the service. In a word, it was slow.

I'm not sure I'd be in a hurry to return.

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PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING

Victorian semi with loft conversion is deceptively spacious

An improved Victorian semi-detached property having loft space converted to provide fourth bedroom, 9 Vicarage Street, Oldbury has deceptively spacious and well-appointed accommodation.

Having a bathroom and shower room, a very large lounge and a separate breakfast kitchen, it is ideally placed for commuting as well as being accessible to excellent local shops. Having off road parking to the front and a substantial rear garden, it is for sale through Tom Giles at £215,000. It has a vestibule entrance, a large reception hall with a staircase off, a lounge, breakfast room, kitchen, lobby, bathroom, shower room and four bedrooms.

In more detail the original front door opens to a large reception hall with original Minton floor tiling and a plaster archway, an under-stairs storage cupboard with an original cold store shelf. The lounge has an arch stone fireplace with a stainless steel electric fire on a stone hearth and French doors to the rear garden.

The breakfast room has French doors opening to the side of the property. The kitchen has a range of modern Beech faced kitchen cupboards, an integrated washing machine and Neff electric fan assisted oven together with wine rack, red granite effect gloss worktop surfaces, a five ring Neff gas hob incorporating a wok central burner, ceramic tiled splashes, full height larder storage cupboards, Neff extractor hood over hob, grey slate effect ceramic tiled floor and a vertical ladder central heating towel rail.

There is a connecting door to the lobby with ceramic tiled flooring and a door to the garden and a door to the bathroom. This has a white suite and fully tiled walls, a bath with a built-in seat and spa jets, WC, extractor fan, stainless steel vertical ladder towel rail and slate effect tiled flooring.

Off the large first floor landing is bedroom three with a built-in wardrobe, bedrooms two and four and a shower room with a large shower tray, stainless steel framed shower cubicle with sliding opening door, wash hand basin, WC and fully tiled ceramic walls with attractive border tile, a large stainless steel vertical towel rail and slate effect flooring. A staircase extending from first floor landing to bedroom one which has three Velux windows.

KEY FEATURES

- Improved period semi
- Deceptively spacious
- Large garden
- Ideally for commuting
- Converted loft

OLDBURY £215,000

TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: Tom Giles
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Four-bedroom home is within walking distance of arboretum

WALSALL
£195,000 <<<

With four bedrooms, this semi-detached property is in Persehouse Street, Walsall.

It is within walking distance of Walsall Arboretum and near a good range of schools, amenities and public transport links. It is priced at £195,000.

With gas central heating and double glazing it has an entrance vestibule, a reception hall with laminate wood floor and cellar off, front reception room with Adam-style fireplace, bay window and laminate wood floor, rear reception room with a wooden fireplace with a cast-iron inset and French doors.

There is also a breakfast room/kitchen, lobby, part-tiled bathroom, four bedrooms and an additional bathroom, staircase to loft room, concrete frontage and rear yard and garden. For further information contact estate agent Fraser Wood on 01922 627686 or visit the website at www.fraser-wood.co.uk

Spacious home has large conservatory

WALSALL
£340,000

This spacious, well maintained and extended home in Lazy Hill Road, Aldridge, Walsall, occupies an enviable situation on an excellent plot in a highly-regarded residential area.

It is for sale through Edwards Moore at £340,000. The house comes with double glazing, a porch, reception hall, impressive through lounge, dining room opening to an attractively fitted kitchen, large conservatory, downstairs bathroom, garage, utility, impressive hobby/games room, three first floor bedrooms – two with en-suite WC – separate shower room, delightful mature rear garden and wide frontage with plentiful block paved parking.

It also sits close to shops and services in Aldridge village centre, public transport network links, main roads and motorways. Contact Edwards Moore on 01922 745105 or visit www.edwardsmoore.co.uk

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Hagley

Station Road
* Impressive Edwardian Semi-Detached
* 4 Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen/Dining Room, Large Family Room, Utility/Hobbies
* 4 Bedrooms (Principal with Ensuite Bathroom & Dressing Areas ,
* South Facing Gardens EPC=D

Offers in the region of £599,995

Halesowen

Lodge Close
* A spacious four bedroom detached house.
* Desirable location and enclosed gardens.
* Two en-suites, house bathroom.
* Lounge, dining room, study.
* Fitted kitchen leading to conservatory.
* Double garage , utility. EPC=C

Offers in the region of £525,000

Romsley

Dark Lane
* Impressive Detached Bungalow
* Outstanding views of neighbouring districts
* 3 bedrooms (Principal Ensuite)
* Shower Room * Lounge * Dining Room
* Fitted Kitchen, Utility Room. Sun Lounge
* Landscaped Gardens EPC=E

Offers in the region of £499,500

Halesowen

Blackberry Lane
* A detached family house with four bedrooms
* Lounge, dining room and study * Principal bedroom with en-suite, house bathroom
* Fitted kitchen with host of appliances, utility
* Detached double garage, lovely gardens EPC=C

Offers in the region of £385,000

Halesowen

Hagley Road West
*Deceptively Spacious Detached family home
*Four good sized bedrooms
*Large lounge/dining room
*Breakfast room leading onto kitchen
*Tandem garage * Beautiful rear garden with southerly aspect EPC=F

Offers in the region of £349,950

Oldbury

Wolverhampton Road
* Detached House
* Living room and dining room
* Kitchen and breakfast room
* Conservatory * Five bedrooms
* Garage
* Extensive rear garden EPC=D

Offers in the region of £349,950

Oldbury

Oak Road
* Dining room * Living room
* Former garage/family room
* Kitchen and utility
* Bedroom two with en-suite
* Four further bedrooms
* Family bathroom EPC=D

Offers in the region of £325,000

Birmingham

Glyn Farm Road
* Traditional style semi detached house
* Tastefully presented accommodation
* Two reception rooms * Quality fitted kitchen
* Three bedrooms * Well appointed bathroom with both bath and shower
* Exceptionally good sized gardens
* Off road parking and car port EPC=E

Offers in the region of £199,995

Halesowen

Lusbridge Close
* Detached house situated in cul-de-sac
* Kitchen/breakfast room
* Utility
* Two reception rooms and conservatory
* Four bedrooms (one with en-suite)
* Garage EPC=D

Offers in the region of £270,000

Halesowen

Hiplands Road
* Semi detached house with potential
* Prominent corner position
* Detached garage with driveway
* Three bedrooms
* Through lounge
* Lovely views EPC=D

Offers in the region of £239,950

Halesowen

Middlefield Avenue
* Link detached house
* Lounge* Dining room
* Conservatory
* Breakfast room
* Three bedrooms
* Bathroom* Garage EPC=D

Offers in the region of £239,950

Halesowen

Narrow Lane
* Spacious Detached house
* Three reception rooms
* Study* Downstairs wc and utility
* Five bedrooms one with en-suite
* Bathroom
* Pleasant garden and garage. EPC=E

Offers in the region of £304,950

Rowley Regis

Yew Tree Lane
* Well proportioned detached house
* Kitchen/breakfast room
* Three reception rooms
* Utility and downstairs shower room
* Three good sized bedrooms
* Re-fitted shower room * Garage
* Beautiful rear garden EPC=tbc

Offers in the region of £209,950

Halesowen

Lilac Way
* A spacious detached bungalow
* Two bedrooms and shower room
* Reception hall, fitted cloakroom
* Kitchen/breakfast room
* Landscaped gardens, detached garage
* Inspection recommended. EPC=D

Offers in the region of £225,000

Oldbury

Chestnut Road
* Extended much improved semi detached house * Two reception rooms
* Extended re-fitted kitchen
* Three bedrooms * Re-fitted bathroom and additional wc * Small garage
* Pleasant rear garden EPC=tbc

Offers in the region of £224,950

Halesowen

Carters Lane
* Well Maintained Semi Detached House
* Situated on Service Road
* Three Bedrooms * Two Reception Rooms
* Good Sized Kitchen
* Popular Residential Location
* Attractive Rear Garden EPC=D

Offers in the region of £209,950

Quinton

High Street
* Terraced House
* Three bedrooms
* Two reception rooms
* Well appointed bathroom
* Rear garden
* No chain EPC=E

Offers in the region of £169,950

Halesowen

Lyttleton Avenue
* Detached House in need of modernisation
* Two reception rooms
* Downstairs wc
* Three bedrooms
* Delapidated garage EPC=E

Offers in the region of £165,000

Halesowen Hurst Green

Fairfield Road
* Detached bungalow
* Block paved driveway
* Open plan kitchen/living room
* Utility
* Two bedrooms
* Shower room EPC=D

Offers in the region of £165,000

Kidderminster

Spencer Street
* End terrace house
* Two Bedrooms
* Lounge * Kitchen * Cellar
* Shower room
* Enclosed Garden
* Gas boiler heating radiators
* Double glazed windows EPC=D

Offers in the region of £114,950

Dudley

Swan Street
* Large end terrace house
* Downstairs wc
* Re-fitted kitchen/breakfast room
* Lounge and dining room
* Three bedrooms
* Bathroom
* Additional plot of land EPC=D

Offers in the region of £135,000

Halesowen

Park Road
* Link detached bungalow * Two bedrooms and bathroom * Lounge, kitchen and side garage
* Enclosed elevated rear garden. * Situated on main bus route to Halesowen and Stourbridge Town Centres EPC=D

Offers in the region of £125,000

Halesowen

Beaumont Road
* Two bedroom terraced house
* Two reception rooms
* Ground floor bathroom & first floor shower room
* Rear garden
EPC=D

Offers in the region of £124,950

Birmingham B32

Parkside
* Semi-detached house
* Three bedrooms
* Kitchen/breakfast room
* Shower room
* Rear garden
* Garage EPC=C

Offers in the region of £121,250

Halesowen

Kent Road
* Ground floor flat
* Kitchen/breakfast room
* Living room
* Two bedrooms
* Shower room
* Private garden EPC=C

Offers in the region of £119,950

Halesowen

Vicarage Road
* Terraced house
* Kitchen and lobby
* Ground floor bathroom
* Three bedrooms
* Rear Garden
EPC=D

Offers in the region of £110,000

Halesowen

Oaklands Court
Spies Lane
* Second floor flat
* Living room * Two bedrooms
* Communal parking
* Communal gardens EPC=C

Offers in excess of £110,000

Halesowen

Brett Young Close
* Second floor flat
* Open plan living space with kitchen area
* Two bedrooms
* Bathroom
* Allocated parking EPC=B

Offers in the region of £109,950

Halesowen

Long Lane
* Two bedroom terraced house
* Conveniently situated for Blackheath Town Centre * In need of some general modernization
* Kitchen/breakfast room
* Bathroom * Ideal for first time buyers or investors EPC=D

Offers in the region of £79,950

Tipton

Old Port Close
* Opportunity to acquire a residential investment property. * Regulated rent paid of £350 per calendar month.
* Canal side setting. * One bedroom, bathroom, open plan kitchen/dining room/lounge
* Allocated parking EPC=D

£55,000

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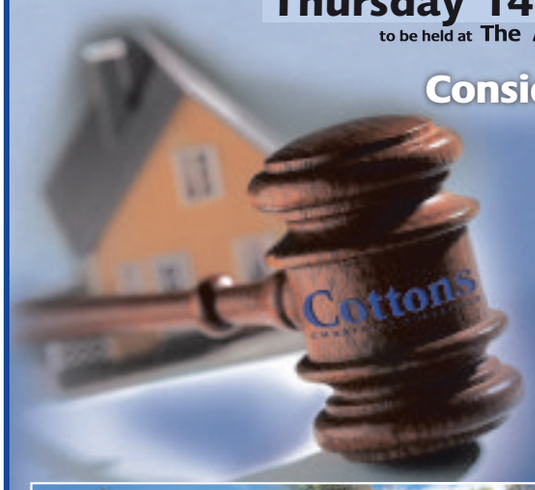

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Two-bedroomed flat is ideal as a first time home

A 7th floor two-bedroomed flat, 46 Millsum House, Paddock Lane, Walsall is ideal for a landlord or first time buyer.

It is for sale through Redstones at £52,500 with no chain.

With double glazing it has a communal entrance with intercom, a reception hall with an electric heater, store room and cloakroom, a lounge, a kitchen, two double bedrooms, a re-fitted bathroom with a shower, separate re-fitted WC, communal gardens and parking spaces.

WALSALL
£52,500

In more detail bedroom two has a built-in wardrobe and the lounge has a wall mounted electric fire and a door leading out to a balcony.

The kitchen has an electric heater, matching wall, base and drawer units, a stainless steel sink and drainer, electric cooker point, plumbing and appliance space, extractor fan and tiled surrounds.

Viewing is strongly recommended. For further information contact Redstones on 01922 235350 or visit www.redstones.co.uk

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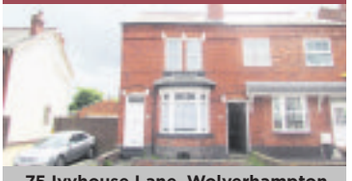
Viewing 24th June 9:45 & 29th June 16:00

49 Sydney Road, Smethwick
3 Bedroom Semi Detached House with Central Heating and Part Double Glazing.
Ground Floor: Porch, Hall, Reception Room, Kitchen and WC
First Floor: Three Bedrooms and Bathroom/WC
Outside: Gardens, Driveway Parking and Side Garage
Guide: £50,000 plus

Viewing 24th June 15:45 & 29th June 10:00

105 Hazeldene Road, Sheldon
3 Bedroom Semi Detached House with Majority Double Glazing
Guide: £50,000 plus

Viewing 24th June 11:45 & 29th June 14:00



75 Ivyhouse Lane, Wolverhampton
Semi Detached House Converted into 2 Flats with Part Central Heating
Guide: £50,000 plus

Viewing 24th June 10:45 & 29th June 15:00

154 Saltwells Road, Netherton
3 Bedroom Mid Terraced Property with Part Double Glazing, in Need of Refurbishment
Guide: £29,000-£34,000

Viewing 24th June 13:15 & 29th June 12:30

68 Woodstock Road, Wolverhampton
3 Bedroom End Terraced House with Central Heating and Majority Double Glazing
Guide: £39,000-£44,000

Viewing 24th June 14:15 & 29th June 11:30

17 Brookthorpe Drive, Wolverhampton
4 Bedroom Link Detached with Central Heating and Majority Double Glazing
Guide: £69,000-£74,000

Viewing 24th June 12:30 & 29th June 13:15

549 Parkfield Road, Wolverhampton
2 Bedroom Mid Terraced Investment
Current Gross Income: £5,760 pa
Guide: £29,000-£34,000

FURTHER VIEWING APPOINTMENTS ARE AVAILABLE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE FOR FURTHER DETAILS

**Please note charges may apply in addition to the purchase price*

***For a definition of Guide Price & Reserve Price please refer to the catalogue or website*

Delightful traditional detached residence

BLOXWICH
£230,000 <<<

A delightful traditional detached residence in Sanstone Road, Bloxwich, Walsall lies in a sought after location just off Stafford Road.

A spacious property with scope for further extension in need of some modernisation, it is for sale through Goodchilds at £230,000 with no chain.

The property has a recently fitted boiler, double glazing, a garage, a ground floor WC and attractive rear garden.

In more detail it has a driveway, an entrance hall with a staircase off, a lounge with a feature fireplace and an archway leading to a dining area and sliding doors to the rear garden. The breakfast kitchen has ceramic floor tiling, as does the laundry room. It has three bedrooms and a bathroom.

For further information contact Goodchilds on 01922 711444 or visit www.goodchilds-uk.com

Spacious semi ideal for young family

BLOXWICH
£114,950

This deceptively spacious semi-detached house in Harrison Street, Bloxwich, Walsall, comes with three bedrooms and an upstairs bathroom.

With double glazing and central heating, it is for sale through Skitts at £114,950.

It has a porch, a dining room with stairs off to the first floor, a rear lounge with a feature fireplace and under-stairs storage, a kitchen with a range of wall and base cupboard units, a chimney style cooker hood, a door to a utility room and further door to a ground floor WC. Upstairs are three bedrooms and the bathroom with a white suite.

Outside is a pleasant enclosed rear garden served by a side gate and having a patio area and lawn.

For further information contact Skitts on 01922 478104 or visit www.skitts.net

SDL BIGWOOD
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7TH JULY 2016

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Commercial Investment Properties
Land/Development Opportunities
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ENTRIES NOW INVITED FOR OUR NEXT AUCTION

at Aston Villa Football Ground

49 Sydney Road, Smethwick
3 Bedroom Semi Detached House
Guide: £50,000 plus

20 Guildford Drive, Newtown
3 Bedroom Mid Terraced House
Guide: £55,000 plus

12 Windmill End, Dudley
3 Bedroom Semi Detached House
Guide: £77,500 plus

Flat 6, 78 Persehouse St., Walsall
1 Bedroom Leasehold Flat
Guide: £24,000 - £28,000

154 Saltwells Road, Netherton
3 Bedroom Mid Terraced House
Guide: £29,000 - £34,000

16a Leys Road, Brierley Hill
Ground Floor Studio Flat Investment
Current Gross Income: £4,500 pa.
Guide: Nil Reserve

**Please note charges may apply in addition to the purchase price on some lots*
***For a definition of Guide Price & Reserve price please refer to our catalogue or website*

recently refurbished property with a new kitchen and bathroom

Recently refurbished, this immaculately presented three-bedroomed semi-detached property, 4 Bayleys Lane, Tipton, comes with a brand new bathroom and kitchen.

It is for sale through The Property Shop at £139,950.

It has an entrance hall, a lounge, a kitchen with plumbing and space for a washing machine, electric oven and hob, three bedrooms and a bathroom.

For further information contact The Property Shop on 01384 456022 or visit www.thepropertyshop.co.uk

TIPTON

£139,950 <<<

Bartrams

TEL. 0121 601 9370
www.bartrams.com

DAGGER LANE, B71 4BT

- A Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Double Glazing & Central Heating
- Freehold
- EPC Rating D

£350,000

BUSTLEHOLME LANE, B71 3BQ

- A Detached Dorma Bungalow
- Four Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Garage & Driveway
- EPC RATING D, Freehold

£325,000

CHARLEMONT AVENUE, B71 3BY

- A Semi Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Double Glazed & Central Heating
- Two Reception Rooms
- Freehold,
- EPC RATING D

£284,950

HAMBLETTS ROAD, B70 9NZ

- A Mid Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating,
- Majority Double Glazed
- Freehold, EPC RATING D

£134,950

GREEN LANE, B43 5LE

- A Semi Detached Bungalow
- Two bedrooms
- Garage At Rear
- No Upward Chain
- EPC RATING E, Freehold

£149,950

HILLARY AVENUE, WS10 0HE

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Front And Rear Gardens
- Lounge, Off Road Parking
- EPC RATING D, Freehold

£124,950

BERKSHIRE CRESCENT, WS10 0ST

- A Semi Detached Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Through Lounge, Conservatory
- Garage
- Freehold, EPC RATING D

£124,950

COBHAM ROAD, WS10 0JH

- An End Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Double Glazing
- Double Gates To Rear
- Freehold, EPC RATING C

£114,950

KESTEVEN ROAD, B71 1JH

- A Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Conservatory
- EPC RATING C, Freehold

£159,999

WITTON LANE, B71 2AQ

- A Semi Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- Lounge & Dining Area
- Freehold

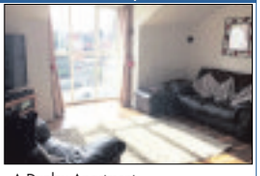
£149,950

BROOKSIDE, WS10 0QF

- A Second Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Electric Storage Heaters
- Allocated Parking
- Leasehold, EPC RATING D

£86,950

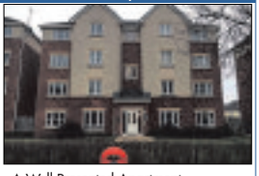
MONARCH COURT, WS10 9FD



- A Duplex Apartment
- Two Bedrooms / En -Suite
- Excellent Location for Commuting
- Ideal 1st Time Buy
- Leasehold, EPC Rating F

£94,950

HOLYHEAD ROAD, WS10 7DQ



- A Well Presented Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Allocated Car Parking
- Storage Heating
- Fitted Kitchen

£90,000

ARLINGTON ROAD, B71 1AD

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating
- Part Double Glazed
- Freehold

£169,950

CROCKFORD ROAD, B71 2ES

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Central Heating & Double Glazing
- EPC RATING E, Freehold

£105,000

6 AMPHION MEWS, B71 4HR

- New Gated Development
- Three Bedrooms
- Detached Bungalow
- Close To Sandwell Hospital
- Freehold
- EPC TBC

£289,950

WYNDMILL CRESCENT, B71 3RB

- A Detached Bungalow
- Two Bedrooms
- Majority Double Glazed
- Central Heating, Conservatory
- EPC RATING C, Freehold

£184,950

7 AMPHION MEWS, B71 4HR

- New Gated Development
- Three Bedrooms
- Detached Bungalow
- Close To Sandwell Hospital
- Freehold
- EPC TBC

£284,950

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Connells

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WEDNESBURY

Richard Wattis Drive
Wednesbury
£215,000

●●●VIEWING ESSENTIAL●●● on this modern three bedroom detached property on a corner plot briefly comprising of, entrance hallway, lounge, fitted kitchen, conservatory, downstairs WC,ensuite to master bedroom, bathroom, enclosed rear garden, driveway and garage.

Cotterills Road
Tipton
£95,000

A two bedroom end terraced property suitable for FIRST TIME BUYERS or INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY, briefly comprising of lounge, fitted kitchen, first floor bathroom, rear garden and driveway providing off road parking. NO UPWARD CHAIN.

Elizabeth Walk
Tipton
£152,500

VIEWING ADVISED on this three bedroom semi detached property on the Wednesbury Oak Estate, briefly comprising of lounge, kitchen diner, utility room, second reception room (converted garage), first floor bathroom, enclosed rear garden and driveway providing off road parking.

Woden Road East
Wednesbury
£250,000

Situated in a sought after location VIEWING IS ESSENTIAL to appreciate this refurbished three bedroom detached bungalow. The property briefly comprising of entrance porch leading to entrance hallway, lounge, kitchen diner, shower room, laundry area, bathroom, enclosed rear garden and driveway.

Alexandra Grange,
Alexandra Road
£133,995

CALL NOW TO VIEW THIS FANTASTIC BEAUTIFULLY PRESENTED TWO BEDROOM STARTER HOME. The Chilton is a modern two bedroom property on the Alexandra Grange development. Being ideal for first time buyers this property benefits from being in the help to buy scheme. Call Connells estate agents on 0121 556 2338 for more information.

Alexandra Grange
Alendra Road, Tipton
£150,000

CALL NOW TO VIEW THIS FANTASTIC BEAUTIFULLY PRESENTED THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED FAMILY HOME. The Astley 2 Includes kitchen with fitted appliances, flooring, patio & turf, lounge with French doors, 10 year LABC warranty, off road parking. Call Connell's estate agents on 0121 556 2338 to view.

The Oaks
Gospel Oak Road,
from

●LAST PLOT REMAINING● An absolutely stunning new development of two and three bedroom properties off Gospel Oak Road in Tipton. These high spec family eco homes must be viewed to appreciate the specification on offer. Reservations are being taken. Help to buy is available.

Cinder Way
Wednesbury
£96,000

A modernised ground floor two bedroom maisonette which must be viewed too appreciate the size of the property. Set in a secluded cul-de-sac location and also within close proximity to Wednesbury town centre and bus station. Property also offered with no upward chain.

0121 556 2338 wednesbury@connells.co.uk
22 Springhead, Wednesbury, West Midlands WS10 9AD

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Connells

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WEST BROMWICH

Sams Lane
West Bromwich
£160,000

●●OPEN HOUSE EVENT●● Saturday 25th June between 12 - 2pm. Call Connells today on 012 525 1177 to register your interest on this stunning and highly maintained modern 3 bedroom townhouse located in West Bromwich town centre. The property comes with parking, two bathrooms and a study. EPC Rating B.

Claypit Lane
West Bromwich
£135,000

A highly maintained and very well presented three bedroom mid terraced family home with off road parking. The property is ideally located for schools, local shops and amenities and would be an ideal family home. The property comprises of a lounge, kitchen, downstairs bathroom, double glazing and central heating. EPC Rating D.

Joweths Lane
West Bromwich
£98,500

●●OPEN HOUSE EVENT●● Saturday 2nd July between 12 - 2pm. Call Connells today on 0121 525 1177 to register you interest on this ideal first time buy. This two bedroom semi detached positioned on a corner plot offers no upward chain and off road parking. EPC Rating D.

Francis Ward Close
West Bromwich
£145,000

A well presented 3 bedroom semi detached property, briefly comprising of a porch, entrance hallway, lounge, dining area, kitchen and sitting room, upstairs bathroom, separate WC, gas central heating, double glazing (where specified), front and rear gardens, garage and off road parking. EPC RATING D

Hampshire Road
West Bromwich
£190,000

A remarkable three bedroom detached property comprising of a spacious lounge, kitchen/ diner, guest WC, three double bedrooms, family bathroom and off road parking. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating TBC

Hampshire Road
West Bromwich
£175,000

This three bedroom semi detached boasts most of its character through its setting, spacious lounge, kitchen/diner, guest WC, family bathroom and off road parking. This property also offers NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating TBC.

Ruskin Street
West Bromwich
£135,000

A 3 bedroom semi detached property, briefly comprising of an entrance hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen and downstairs wc. The property also benefits from an upstairs family bathroom, gas central heating, double glazing, front and rear gardens and off road parking. No upward chain. EPC Rating C.

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3 Astle Park, West Bromwich, West Midlands B70 8NS

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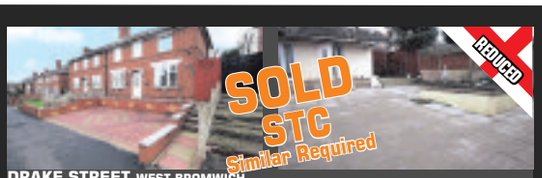


DRAKE STREET WEST BROMWICH
- Three bedroom semi-detached home
- Extended Open Plan Kitchen/Dining Room
- Conservatory
- Double Glazed
- Centrally Heated
- Conservatory
- Out Building with Jaccuzi
- Off Road Parking

£145,000 OFFERS

DURHAM ROAD WEDNESBURY
- Semi detached house
- Two double bedrooms
- Loft room with retractable ladder
- Spacious lounge
- Conservatory
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- rear garden

£116,950 OFFERS

VICARAGE ROAD WEDNESBURY
- Mid terraced house
- Two bedrooms
- Lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen
- Shower room
- Large rear garden
- No chain

£104,950 OFFERS

KENT ROAD WEDNESBURY
- Semi detached home
- Two bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Upstairs bathroom
- Off road parking
- Rear garden
- Excellent opportunity for first-time buyers or investors

£119,950 OFFERS

MILL STREET WEDNESBURY
- End terrace house • Two bedrooms
- Kitchen • Lounge
- Bathroom • Rear garden
- Off road parking • Viewing advised

£90,000 OFFERS

CORPORATION STREET WEDNESBURY
- Victorian semi detached house • Two bedrooms
- upstairs bathroom • Double glazed & centrally heated
- Two reception rooms • Kitchen
- Viewing advised • deal first purchase or family home

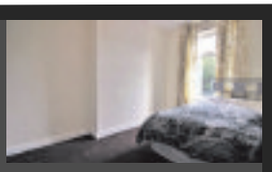
£105,000 OFFERS

FOLEY STREET WEDNESBURY
- Immaculate terraced home • Three bedrooms
- Lounge • Dining room
- Kitchen • Downstairs bathroom

£149,995 OFFERS

DARBY ROAD WEDNESBURY
- Mid Terraced Property • Three bedrooms
- Lounge • Dining room
- Centrally Heated • Double glazed
- Large Rear Garden • Vacant Possession

£120,000 OFFERS



MASON STREET WEST BROMWICH
- Mid terraced home
- Three bedrooms
- Lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen
- Downstairs bathroom
- Rear garden
- No chain

£109,950 OFFERS

HEWITT STREET WEDNESBURY
- Mid terraced home
- Two bedrooms
- Dining Room/third bedroom
- Kitchen
- Downstairs Shower room
- Upstairs bathroom
- Large rear garden
- No chain

£94,950 OFFERS

WESTBURY ROAD WEDNESBURY
- Semi-Detached house
- Large corner plot
- Three bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Kitchen
- 'L' Shaped bathroom
- Downstairs W.C.
- Rear garden

£110,000 OFFERS

YEW TREE HILLS DUDLEY
- Auction property
- Detached bungalow
- Two bedrooms
- Large hilltop plot surrounded by landscaped gardens
- Double glazed and centrally heated requiring some updating
- Completely private, tranquil setting yet idealy placed to all amenities
- Viewing advised

£140,000 GUIDE PRICE

CORONATION ROAD WEDNESBURY
- Semi detached house • Three bedrooms
- Two reception rooms • Kitchen
- Garage • Off road parking
- enclosed garden • Viewing advised

£129,995 OFFERS

BRATCH CLOSE DUDLEY
- Auction Sale • Semi-detached house
- Three bedrooms • Popular development
- Spacious kitchen diner • Cul-de-sac location
- Vacant possession • Limited mortgage finance

£90,000 GUIDE PRICE

WATERSIDE AVENUE WEDNESBURY
- Detached home
- Four bedrooms
- Lounge
- Dining room
- Downstairs W.C.
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- En-suite off bedroom one

£270,000 OFFERS

JOHN FLETCHER CLOSE WEDNESBURY
- Detached Family home
- Three Bedrooms
- Through Lounge/Dining room
- Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Garage
- Upstairs bathroom
- Rear garden

£190,000 OFFERS

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NEW

Harden Keep, Millpol Way

- End Terrace Bungalow
- For the Over 55's
- Two Bedrooms
- Modern Kitchen
- 95% Shared Ownership
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £94,950

NEW

Bearwood Road, Smethwick

- Deceptively Spacious Terrace
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Modern Kitchen
- Family Sized Accommodation
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £153,000

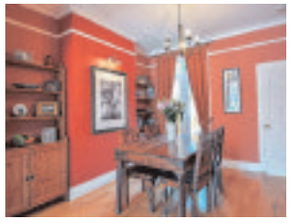
NEW

Harborne Road, Oldbury

- Charming Family Home
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Two Receptiopn Rooms
- Delightful Conservatory
- Stunning Rear Garden
- EP Rating E

Offers in the regio of £425,000

NEW



Galton Road, Bearwood

- Most Attractive Mid Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Bay Fronted Through Lounge
- Extended Kitchen
- Period Features
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £214,950

NEW

Abbey Road, Bearwood

- Superbly Refurbished Semi
- Four Bedrooms
- Extended Kitchen Diner
- Wealth Of Period Features
- Off Road Parking & Garage
- EP Rating F

Offers in the region of £425,000

NEW PRICE

Thimblemill Road, Smethwick

- Delightful Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Modern Style Kitchen
- Ground Floor WC
- Ideal First Purchase
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £149,950

Beechfield Road, Smethwick

- Attractive Mid Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Contemporary Bathroom
- Ideal First Home
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £119,950

Thimblemill Road, Bearwood

- Traditional Mid Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Ground Floor WC
- Plus Upstairs Bathroom
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £119,950

Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury

- Well Presented Detached
- Three Reception Rooms
- Spacious Dining Kitchen
- Five Double Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £329,950

Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury

- Charming Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Through Lounge
- Delightful Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £209,950

Reginald Road, Bearwood

- Charming Traditional Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- No Upward Chain
- Ideal 1st Time Purchase
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £124,950

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Goodchilds FOR SALE

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Estate Agents & Lettings

Capponfield Close,Bilston
- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Integrated Garage
- Family Bathroom
- Off Road Parking
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazed

Offers in the Region Of £185,000

Woden Road East,Wednesbury
- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Gas Central Heating
- Living Room
- Kitchen/Diner
- Rear Garden
- Downstairs Bathroom
- Double Glazing

Offers in the Region Of £155,000

Neptune Street,Tipton
- DETACHED PROPERTY
- TWO BEDROOMS
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- RECENTLY RE-FURBISHED
- DOUBLE GLAZED
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING

Offers in the Region Of £140,000

NEW

Hydes Road,Wednesbury
- Conservatory
- Semi Detached
- Living Room
- Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Utility Room
- Three Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom

Offers in the Region Of £140,000

Wilkes Avenue,Walsall
- Traditional Detached Property
- Two Reception Rooms
- Side Garage
- Driveway
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Close to King Charles Primary School
- Great Potential to Improve/Extend
- Located Close to M6 J10

Offers in Excess of £130,000

Stanbury Avenue,Wednesbury
- End terraced property
- Three spacious bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Family bathroom
- Downstairs WC
- Plentiful storage space
- Garage
- Double glazed and gas central heating

Offers in the Region Of £129,950

Greenway Road,Bilston
- Two Bedrooms
- Terraced House
- Still Under Guarantee
- Lounge / Diner
- Stylish Kitchen
- Guest Cloakroom
- Family Bathroom
- Garden

£127,000

Vicarage Road,Wednesbury
- Investment Opportunity
- Three Bedroom
- Terraced
- Living Room
- Kitchen
- Rear Garden

Offers in the Region Of £115,000

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MIDLANDS LETTINGS AGENCY of the YEAR 2015 THE SUNDAY TIMES THE TIMES

43 DAY CHALLENGE

Gough Street,Willenhall
- Three bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Fitted kitchen
- Family bathroom
- On road parking
- Ideal for investors and first time buyers
- Three-story
- Gas central

Offers in the Region Of £95,000

Queen Street,Wednesbury
- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Rear Garden

Offers in Excess of £90,000

Blenheim Drive,Wednesbury
- Upper Floor Flat
- Modern Throughout
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge/Kitchen
- Double Glazed
- Allocated Parking
- Must View
- Ideal Investment

£85,000

Mytton Grove,Tipton
- UPPER FLOOR FLAT
- WELL PRESENTED
- ONE BEDROOM
- SHOWER ROOM
- RECEPTION HALL
- LOUNGE
- FITTED KITCHEN
- ALLOCATED PARKING

Offers in Excess of £60,000

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- Walsall
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Wednesbury
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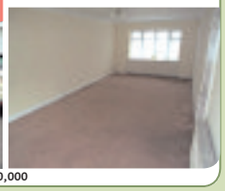
Estate Agents & Lettings

Westmore Way,Wednesbury
- DETACHED HOUSE
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- GAMES ROOM
- FIVE BEDROOMS
- TWO ENSUITES
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- GARAGE



£220,000

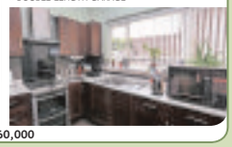
Copthall Road,Birmingham
- Four Bedrooms
- Off Road Parking
- Living/Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Downstairs Wet room
- Four Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazed

Offers in the Region Of £200,000

Elwells Close,Bilston
- Conservatory
- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Detached Garage
- Kitchen

Offers in Excess of £169,995

Wellington Road,Wolverhampton
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- PERIOD SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- BREAKFAST ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- DOWNSTAIRS SHOWER ROOM
- FOUR BEDROOMS
- DOUBLE LENGTH GARAGE



£160,000

Park Street,Wednesbury
- SEMI DETACHED HOME
- POPULAR LOCATION
- ENTRANCE PORCH
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- UTILITY ROOM
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- THREE BEDROOMS

£145,000

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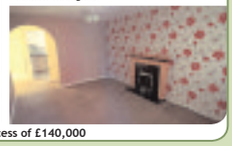
St Christopher Drive,Wednesbury
- Three Bedrooms
- Garage
- Off Road Parking
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Semi Detached
- Well Presented
- Modern Throughout



Offers in Excess of £140,000

Hawkswood Drive,Wednesbury
- Deceptively Spacious
- Three Bedrooms
- Re-Styled Master En-Suite
- Re-Styled Bathroom
- Two Reception Rooms
- Conservatory
- New UPVC Double Glazed Windows
- Well Presented

Fixed £134,950

Peel Close,Wednesbury
- ATTRACTIVE LOCATION
- SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- ENTRANCE PORCH
- FITTED KITCHEN
- CONSERVATORY
- TWO BEDROOMS
- FITTED BATHROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING

Offers in the Region Of £115,000

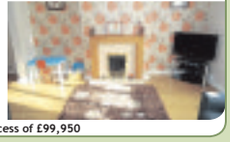
Crankhall Lane,Wednesbury
- Good Investment
- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Living Room
- Dining Area
- Kitchen
- Off Road Parking

Offers in the Region Of £100,000

Ashtree Grove,Bilston
- Cash Buyers
- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen
- Off Road Parking
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating

£100,000

Salter Road,Tipton
- MID TERRACE
- THREE BEDROOM
- KITCHEN/DINER
- MODERN FITTED BATHROOM
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- REAR GARDEN
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- DG & GCH



Offers in Excess of £99,950

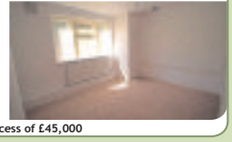
Hales Road,Wednesbury
- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Receptions
- Bathroom
- Off Road Parking
- Rear Garden

Offers in the Region Of £95,000

Damson Wharf,Tipton
- Three Bedroom Three Storey
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Downstairs WC
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing and Gas Central Heating
- Off Road Parking
- Garage

Offers in the Region Of £94,000

Churchfield Avenue,Tipton
- Modern Flat
- Three Bedrooms
- Living Room
- Bathroom
- Kitchen
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Rear Parking



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Stephens Court, Tipton

- Modern Detached
- Spacious Family Accommodation
- Gas Central Heating ● No Upward Chain
- 3 Bedrooms ● En suite, EPC D

OFFERS AROUND: £171,000
Viewing:

Shrubbery Avenue, Tipton

- Lovely Traditional Detached Family Home
- Excellent Wide Frontage Position
- Gas Central Heating ● Most Windows UPVc Double Glazed
- EPC F

- Lounge ● Sitting Room / Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms ● Bathroom
- Detached Garage ● Side garden ● Additional Enclosed Yard, Guest Cloakroom

Viewing
OFFERS AROUND: £169,995

New Birmingham Road, Oldbury

- Modern Second Floor Apartment
- UPVc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- Ideal First Time Purchase or Buy To Let Investment
- 2 Bedrooms ● Garage, EPC C

OFFERS AROUND: £79,995
Viewing:

Robert Road, Tipton

- Spacious Family Home
- New Gas Central Heating ● No Upward Chain
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Excellent Corner Plot
- 3 Bedrooms, EPC D

OFFERS AROUND: £110,000
Viewing:

Monins Avenue, Tipton

- Modern First Floor Apartment
- Larger Than Average Accommodation
- Gas Central Heating ● No Upward Chain
- 1 Bedroom, EPC C

OFFERS AROUND: £65,000
Viewing:

Tierney Drive, Tipton

- Attractive Modern Semi Detached
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- Superbly Presented / Viewing Recommended
- 2 Bedrooms, EPC C

OFFERS AROUND: £109,995
Viewing:

St Michaels Mews, Oldbury

- Modern First Floor Apartment
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Electric Heating
- Ideal First Time Purchase or Buy To Let
- Quiet Good Location, 1 Bedroom

OFFERS AROUND: £59,995
Viewing:

Foxyards Road, Tipton

- Semi Detached
- Sought After Location ● Upvc Double Glazing
- In Need of Repair / Attention
- 3 Bedrooms, EPC E

OFFERS AROUND: £114,995
Viewing:

Avern Close, Tipton

- Modern Purpose Built First Floor Flat
- Double Glazing ● Electric Storage Heating
- Ideal First Time Purchase or Buy To Let
- 1 Bedroom,

OFFERS AROUND: £57,000
Viewing:

Avern Close, Tipton

- Attractive Modern End Terrace
- Good Location ● Viewing Recommended
- Gas Central Heating ● Excellent Size Plot
- 2 Bedrooms ● Side Garage, EPC D

OFFERS AROUND: £112,000
Viewing:

Temple Way, Oldbury

- Modern Link-Detached
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- Good Location
- 3 Bedrooms,

OFFERS AROUND: £139,995
Viewing:

CALL NOW FOR A FREE VALUATION

Pitchwood Close, Wednesbury — NEW

- Modern Mid Town House
- Two Bedrooms
- First Floor Bathroom
- , Lounge & Kitchen

OFFERS AROUND: £115,000
Viewing:

Wood Green Road, Wednesbury — NEW

- Villa Style Mid Terrace House
- Four Bedrooms & Family Bathroom
- Two Reception Rooms & Kitchen
- , Utility Room, Ground Floor WC & Cellar

OFFERS AROUND: £160,000
Viewing:

Richard Wattis Drive, Wednesbury — NEW

- Well Presented Modern Town House
- Three Bedrooms (en-suite to master)
- Lounge Incorporating Dining Area
- EPC Rating C, Impressive Kitchen

OFFERS AROUND: £140,000
Viewing:

Addenbrooke Street, Wednesbury — REDUCED

- Impressive & Immaculate Detached Residence
- Three Bedrooms & Refitted Family Bathroom
- Spacious Lounge & Dining Room
- Energy Rating E, Feature Conservatory

OFFERS AROUND: £150,000
Viewing:

Dove Close, Wednesbury — REDUCED

- Modern Detached Residence
- Four Bedrooms & Family Bathroom
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Energy Rating D, Modern Kitchen Including Utility

OFFERS AROUND: £174,995
Viewing:

Chestnut Road, Wednesbury

- Traditional Semi Detached Residence
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge & Dining Room
- , Kitchen & First Floor Bathroom

OFFERS AROUND: £145,000
Viewing:

Hobs Road, Wednesbury

- Traditional Semi Detached Residence
- Three Bedrooms & Modern Bathroom
- Lounge Incorporating Dining Area
- EPC Rating E, Impressive Kitchen With Pantry

OFFERS AROUND: £149,995
Viewing:

Somerset Crescent, Wednesbury

- Well [illegible] Semi Detached Property
- Three [illegible]
- Two Re[illegible] Rooms & Kitchen
- Energy Rating [illegible] Shower Room With Separate WC

OFFERS AROUND: £120,000
Viewing:

Manor Road, Wednesbury

- Mid [illegible] Semi
- Three [illegible]
- Good S[illegible]
- EPC Rating C, Modern Kitchen Incorporating Ap-

OFFERS AROUND: £90,000
Viewing:

Rutland Road, West Bromwich

- Mid Terrace
- 3 Bedrooms
- Lounge, Dining room
- , Kitchen

OFFERS AROUND: £125,000
Viewing:

Gads Lane, West Bromwich

- Detached House on large Plot
- 3 Bedrooms
- 3 Reception Rooms
- , Lounge, Dining Room, Breakfast room

OFFERS AROUND: £215,000
Viewing:

The Bantocks, West Bromwich

- Extended 4 Bedroom Detached
- Porch, Hallway
- Lounge, Extended sitting/dining room
- , Extended Kitchen, Utility Area

OFFERS AROUND: £250,000
Viewing:

Wolseley Road, West Bromwich — NEW

- Semi Detached House
- 3 Bedrooms
- Porch, Hallway
- , Lounge, Kitchen

OFFERS AROUND: £135,000
Viewing:

Tantany Lane, West Bromwich — NEW

- Refurbished Mid Terraced House
- 3 Bedrooms
- Lounge, Dining Room
- , Refitted Kitchen & Bathroom

OFFERS AROUND: £121,995
Viewing:

Bridge Street, West Bromwich — REDUCED

- 3 Bedroom Mid Terrace
- Requiring Updating
- Lounge, Dining Room
- , Kitchen Area

OFFERS AROUND: £95,000
Viewing:

Seagar Street, West Bromwich

- 2 Bedroom semi detached
- Cul-De-Sac location
- Master with en suite
- , Guest Cloaks, Kitchen

OFFERS AROUND: £136,500
Viewing:

Old Meeting Street, West Bromwich

- First floor apartment
- 2 Bedrooms
- Open plan kitchen / living area
- , Balcony

OFFERS AROUND: £75,000
Viewing:

Newhall Street, West Bromwich

- 3 Bedroom detached Dormer Bungalow
- Entrance Hall, Utility, Shower room
- Lounge
- , Kitchen, Dining area, Conservatory

OFFERS AROUND: £215,000
Viewing:

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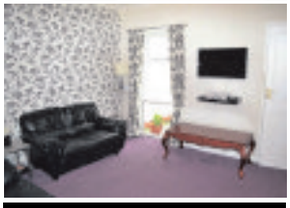
NEW

64 PITCAIRN ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Three Bedrooms & Shower Room
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Conservatory & Side Garage
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Off-Street Parking
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £239,950

NEW



34 WESTFIELD ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Three Bedrooms
- Fully Tiled Bathroom
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen
- Low-Maintenance Garden
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £116,500

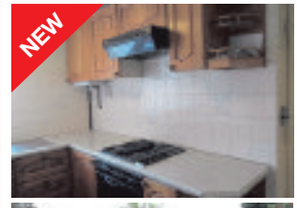
NEW

31 MILCOTE ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Three Bedrooms
- Through Lounge
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Lobby
- Fully Tiled Bathroom with Individual Shower

OFFERS BASED ON £179,950

NEW



265 NEWBURY LANE, OLDBURY

- Three Bedrooms & Bathroom
- Through Lounge & Kitchen
- Side Garage
- Off-Street Parking
- Garage
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £135,000

NEW

33 PARGETER ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Deceptively Spacious
- Three Bedrooms
- Refitted Bathroom & Kitchen
- Vestibule & Hallway
- Through Lounge/Dining Room
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £199,950

NEW PRICE

2 LENWADE ROAD, OLDBURY

- VIEWING SIMPLY A MUST
- Four Bedroomed Detached
- Kitchen/Dining room
- Two Reception Rooms
- Bathroom & Shower Room
- Off-Street Parking
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £349,950

14 POUND CLOSE, OLDBURY

- Three Bedrooms
- Fully Tiled Bathroom
- Through Lounge & Dining Room
- Gardens to Front and Rear
- Off-Street Parking & Side Garage
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £144,950

NEW PRICE

65 LIGHTWOODS HILL, BEARWOOD

- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom to 1st floor
- Three Reception Rooms
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Conservatory and Study
- Off-street parking
- Side Garage
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £305,000

91 FOUNTAIN ROAD, EDGBASTON

- Four Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Self-Contained One-Bedroomed Flat
- Two Spacious Living Rooms
- Dining Room and Kitchen
- Established Gardens
- Off-Street Parking
- In Need of General Upgrading

OFFERS BASED ON £350,000

199 LIGHTWOODS ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Bathroom with
- Individual Shower Compartment
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £179,950

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Knottsall Lane, Oldbury

- THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- EXPANSIVE REAR GARDEN
- GARAGE AND OFF ROAD PARKING
- EPC RATING: D

Offers in Excess of £219,950.00

Dudley Road West, Tipton

- TRADITIONAL DETACHED PROPERTY
- CONSERVATORY
- OFF ROAD PARKING & GARAGE
- EPC RATING: F

Offers in Excess of £179,950.00

Cadgwith Gardens, Bilston

- FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED HOME
- IN A QUIET CUL-DE-SAC
- OPEN PLAN LIVING SPACE
- EPC RATING: E

Offers in Excess of £179,950.00

Dingle Street, Oldbury

- THREE BEDROOM DETACHED HOME
- WORKSHOP AND CAR PORT
- MODERN INTERIORS
- EPC RATING: F

Offers in the Region Of £169,950.00

Jevons Drive, Tipton

- THREE BEDROOM TOWN HOUSE
- EN-SUITE TO MASTER BEDROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- EPC RATING: C

Offers in Excess of £144,950.00

The Fairway, Kings Norton

- THREE BEDROOM TERRACED
- DOUBLE GARAGES TO THE REAR
- FITTED KITCHEN DINER AREA
- EPC RATING: B

Offers in the Region Of £134,950.00

Gill Street, Dudley

- TWO BEDROOM MODERN END-OF-TERRACE
- TWO LARGE RECEPTION ROOMS
- MODERN KITCHEN / DINER
- EPC RATING: E

Offers in Excess of £104,950.00

Lees Street, Hockley

- THREE BEDROOM TERRACED PROPERTY
- REQUIRES MODERNISATION
- DRIVEWAY AND GARDEN
- EPC RATING: D

Offers in Excess of £89,950.00

Regent Street, Smethwick

- IDEAL FOR INVESTORS / FIRST TIME BUYERS
- ONE BEDROOM GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT
- ALLOCATED OFF ROAD PARKING
- EPC RATING: D

Offers in the Region Of £69,950.00

Charlemont Crescent, West Bromwich

- SPACIOUS THREE BEDROOM DETACHED HOME
- SEPARATE ANNEX WITH OWN ENTRANCE
- GARAGE & OFF ROAD PARKING
- EPC RATING: D

Offers in the Region Of £299,950.00

Willow Avenue, Edgbaston

- THREE BEDROOM END-OF-TERRACE
- FULLY REFURBISHED FAMILY HOME
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- EPC RATING: E

£209,950.00

Ditta Drive, Oldbury

- THREE BEDROOM DETACHED FAMILY HOME
- CAR PORT AND OFF ROAD PARKING
- MODERN, NEUTRAL INTERIORS
- EPC RATING: C

Offers in the Region Of £184,950.00

Silverlight Grove, Oldbury

- MODERN TWO BEDROOM END-OF-TERRACE
- NEW BUILD STYLE PROPERTY
- SECURE OFF ROAD PARKING
- EPC RATING: C

Offers in Excess of £139,950.00

Stone Street, Oldbury

- TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT
- WELL PRESENTED AND MODERN
- MASTER BEDROOM WITH EN-SUITE
- EPC RATING: C

Offers in Excess of £104,950.00

Broadmoor Avenue, Oldbury

- MODERN THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- NEWLY REFURBISHED THROUGHT
- SPACIOUS LOUNGE
- RECENTLY FITTED KITCHEN

Monthly Rental Of £775.00

Tame Street, West Bromwich

- MODERN THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- OFF ROAD PARKING WITH GARAGE
- MASTER BEDROOM WITH EN-SUITE
- DOWNSTAIRS WC

Monthly Rental Of £750.00

Tyburn Road, Erdington

- THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED PROPERTY
- WELL PRESENTED THROUGHOUT
- PART-FURNISHED
- OFF ROAD PARKING

Monthly Rental Of £725.00

Maughan Street, Brierley Hill

- THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- GROUND FLOOR WC & UPSTAIRS BATHROOM
- EXCELLENT LOCATION CLOSE TO MERRY HILL

Monthly Rental Of £575.00

Stone Street, Oldbury

- TWO BEDROOM MODERN APARTMENT
- SECURE ALLOCATED PARKING
- DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- EN-SUITE TO MASTER BEDROOM

Monthly Rental Of £550.00

Navigation Street, City Centre

- TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT
- ON THE TENTH FLOOR
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- MASTER BEDROOM WITH ENSUITE

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Turner Street, West Bromwich

- THREE BEDROOM MID-TERRACE
- MODERN INTERIORS
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- FITTED KITCHEN

Monthly Rental of £650.00

New Birmingham Road, Bilston

- THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- OUTHOUSE TO REAR
- UPSTAIRS FAMILY BATHROOM

Monthly Rental Of £625.00

Churchfields Way, West Bromwich

- ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT
- ON THE GROUND FLOOR
- LOUNGE WITH BALCONY
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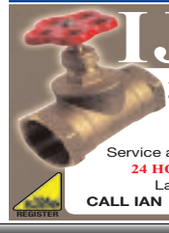

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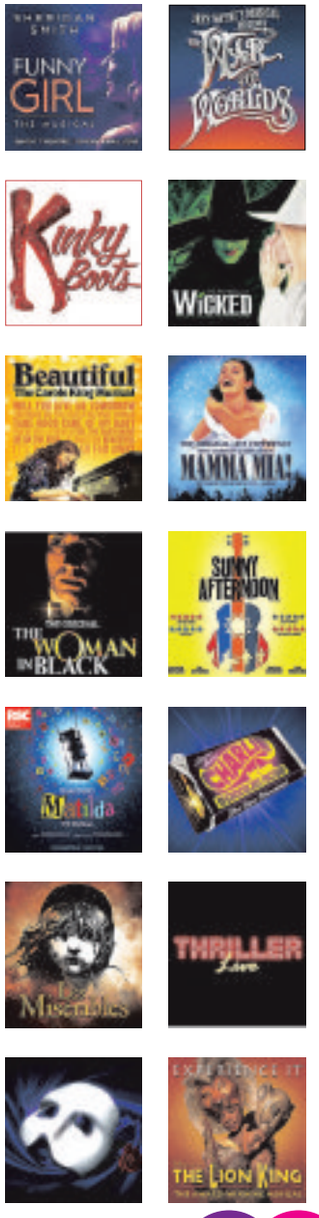

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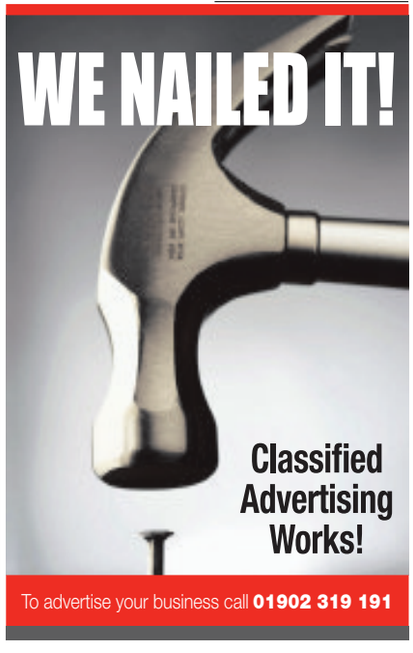
Laptops available.
0121 556 9481



To advertise your business call **01902 319 191**

t.v. / home entertainment

service

AERIAL & TV SPECIALISTS: FREE Estimates on any TV Repairs, Plasma, LCD, 3D, LED, Projection. All areas covered 8 till late. 7 days. Digital aerials, Sky installation. Wall mounts / TV setups. 07850 330251.

specialists at your service

aerials

AA DIGITAL AERIALS
1 AERIAL INTO 2 ROOMS £90
WE WILL BEAT ANY WRITTEN QUOTE
Work Guaranteed
01902 858191
01384 429166
01543 439095
01922 716029
07833 738857
Checkatrade.com

A1 RAPID AERIALS Plasma fitting, Sky repairs, same day service, free call out, 3 yr g'tee, oap discounts 07960 173589 or 0800 633 5899.

alarms/security

PREMIER ALARMS
Supplied and Fitted £195
Servicing and Repairs
12 Months Warranty
All areas covered
All quotes beaten!
Call: 0121 601 9791

cctv

RAPID SECURITY CCTV & alarms cameras, supplied and fitted, domestic and commercial, same day service, free call out. Call Robbi on 07960 173589/ 0800 633 5899.

carpentry & joinery

CARPENTRY AND JOINERY Kitchens, fitted wardrobes, doors, flooring, windows, staircases, refurbs. 07903 234137.

carpet fitters

A CARPETS & VINYLS supplied or just fitted, quality samples brought to your home, no job too small, free quotes call Mark 01543 820598/07941 619694.

gardening services

carpet & upholstery cleaning

A CLASS CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING
OAP discount. Recession Prices.
Unbeatable Value: Rooms cleaned from £10
Call Paul 07870 341089

ClassifiedAds
BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL

IT WORKS FOR ME
"I am really pleased with the response I get from my Classified Advertising!"
Paul Westwood
FOR GREAT BUSINESS RESULTS CALL
01902 319 191
Brought to you by Express & Star

PORTWAY FENCING
SPECIAL OFFER
10 bays of quality fencing, concrete posts, gravel boards £695
HEAVY DUTY PANELS SUPPLIED AND FITTED
0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656
Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm
Sat 8am - 12noon
83 Portway Rd, W'bury
DELIVERY AVAILABLE
www.portwayfencing.co.uk

gates

ALL METAL GATES,RAILINGS, etc. Free quotes, also repairs & fitting. 07903 500642 24 hours.

DARLASTON FABS 30 years exp in supplying/ fitting gates and railings. Free quotes: 07497 667752.

gas fitting

GAS SERVICES
- Boilers
- Cookers
- Fires
- Gas Checks
- Landlord Certificates
- Gas Leaks Traced

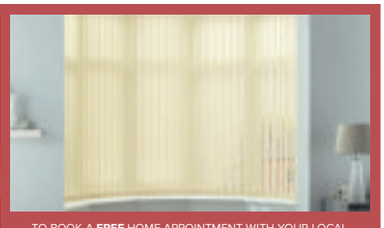
Fitted, Serviced and Repaired
Same Day Service
Free Quotes
DISCOUNTS FOR OAPs
Call: 01902 366855/ 07761 973975

H COOPER & SON LANDSCAPING
WE CAN TRANSFORM OR MAINTAIN YOUR GARDEN
- Garden Walls
- Patios
- Fencing
- Turfing
- General Gardening

For high quality jobs done with pride and at a very fair price.
NO JOB TOO SMALL
Call: 07904 929632

blinds

MADE-TO-MEASURE BLINDS SALE
UP TO 50% OFF*
MEASURING & FITTING INCLUDED
BLINDS | CURTAINS | SHUTTERS | CARPETS
HILLARYS



TO BOOK A **FREE** HOME APPOINTMENT WITH YOUR LOCAL ADVISOR CALL **0800 916 6563** OR VISIT **hillarys.co.uk**
*Ts & Cs apply

READERS ARE ADVISED
To check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered.
It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

handyman services

ClassifiedAds
BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL

IT WORKS FOR ME
I average around 1 to 2 phone calls a day from customers as a direct result of my Classified Advertising. I am very happy with my response levels.
Mr Causer.
FOR GREAT BUSINESS RESULTS CALL
01902 319 191
Brought to you by Express & Star

YOUR LOCAL HANDYMAN
FREE QUOTES
All work guaranteed, Most trades covered, References available on request. No job too big or too small!
CALL MIKE: 07947 621047
0121 6010479

house clearances

A1 HOUSE CLEARANCE
Full, part and single rubbish removed.
Garage and sheds cleared.
Leather 3 piece suites and leather chesterfields wanted.
01922 492007

A ABSOLUTE BEST CASH PRICE PAID
for house clearances and bereavements.
Shops, Schools and Commercial clearances
Also removals undertaken.
All rubbish removed. Carriers licence held
07852 172641 / 07710 360327

HOUSE CLEARANCES, antiques, bric a brac, coins, medals. The Curio Shop, 61 George street, Walsall, WS1 1RS. 07841 596254.

painters / decorators

DECORATOR
ALL domestic work undertaken
Reliable & Affordable
Special rates for OAPs
No job too SMALL
Call
07957 346 059

A PROFESSIONAL DECORATING service by RC Decorating. Free competitive quotes: 07773 025880.

C&D DECORATING City & Guilds / Wallpapering. Free quotes / OAP discount. 07973 286288.

plans prepared

ADAM DESIGN, Building Plans. Drawn and submitted to council. Tel: 01902 620200 / 07841 654037. Email: adamdesign@sky.com

plastering

M & S PLASTERING & BUILDING SERVICES. For All Your Home and Garden Improvements. Over 30 Years Experience. Call Mark or Sara on 07741 770897.

STEVES PLASTERING SERVICE Clean and Reliable, All Work Undertaken, All Areas. Call 0121 567 5919 / 07977 262943.

plumbing & heating

DAVIES & SON BUILDERS
Over 35 years experience in the industry
All aspects of building work including: Extensions, loft conversions, roofing, driveways & landscaping.
Discounts offered.
01902 579592 / 07837 994465

removals

A & M CHEAP REMOVALS
Local
Careful Firm
Full or Part loads
Call Don: 07749 941319

KT REMOVALS
12 years experience.
SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS.
LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.
Free Quotes - Call Ric on:
07771 727119

A MAN WITH A VAN Single items, flat/house removals/clearances, local/nationwide. Call Steve 0121 422 2999 or 07815 043724

CALL DEAN NOW: For all your Removal needs. 07429 453209/ 01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN, Removals, clearances, large/small. 01902 741546, 07899 635852.

roofing

MG ROOFING Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 238989 / 07580 465449.

skip hire

ClassifiedAds
BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL

GRINSELLS SKIP HIRE

IT WORKS FOR ME
Thanks to our Classified advertising in the Express & Star we are really busy!
It definitely works for us!
Grinsells Skip Hire.
FOR GREAT BUSINESS RESULTS CALL
01902 319 191
Brought to you by Express & Star

A absolute affordable skip
RUSSELL SKIPS
Mini, midi skips
Prompt delivery / collection
(0121) 520 3388 / 07721 387990

BLITZ SKIPS
AFFORDABLE SKIPS
2-50 YARD SKIPS AVAILABLE
MON-SAT 7AM-6PM
01902 870370
0121 517 1111

Champion Skip Hire
West Birmingham and Black Country Skip Hire
Call us today on 0121 291 2096
Cheap as skips

GOLDSHILL SKIPS
Bring your own waste cheaper than skips. General, Green, Wood waste any size vehicle. Phone for prices: **0121 557 3346**

GRINSELLS SKIP HIRE LTD. Mini, midi, maxi, large skips. Fast, friendly & reliable service. Monday to Saturday, 6 day service. Call: 0121 555 6060.

STONES SKIP HIRE 0121 557 1480 / 07886 721875 www.stoneskiphire.co.uk

tree services

BUDGET TREE SURGERY Tall or small. Conifers & hedge trimming. Shrubs pruned, tidy ups & make overs 01215053558/ 07936882552

4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

pets corner

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

JACK RUSSELL pups, two. 9 weeks old, tan/white, 1 boy, 1 girl. £175 each. 07722 663466. Dudley.

KITTENS 8wks old, 2 white & ginger, 1 tabby, 1 white with bit of black, 1 black & white, wormed, flead, litter trained £40 each 07765 103474.

LABRADOODLE F3 Mini B, very curly 5 black pups. three girls, two boys. Four weeks ins, first vac's, chipped. £500. 07939 538465.

vets

Express & Star
THIS SPACE COULD BE PROMOTING YOUR BUSINESS
Every day our customers get a great response from Classified Advertising.
So could you by calling our friendly experienced Sales Advisors on 01902 319191.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

AIR RIFLES, SHOT GUNS, Antique guns, taxidermy- big bore guns, traps etc wanted. 07968 624202

5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

commercial premises sale / let

BRIDGE TRADING ESTATE, St Peter's Road, Netherton. Industrial Unit - 2500 sq ft with small private yard, office and toilets. Roller shutter doors. Info: 01902 562222.

OUTSIDE YARD FOR RENT Different types of usage. £150 pw. Secured locked. Bilston Wolverhampton. Weekend viewing upon request. 07943 502474.

UNITS AND OFFICE SPACE to let in Oldbury, West Bromwich and Walsall. Easy Terms. Ashmore Properties: 0121 520 5318.

6 Property

accommodation to let

NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

LOOK

DOWN SIZING AND LOOKING FOR A CHANGE
Unique two bedroom modernised cottage courtyard garden, in centre of Historic Literary Lichfield, close for rail and bus stations, shops etc,
£170,000 Freehold.
Call 07948 996799.
Or Email
maryfebaker@outlook.com

HIGH STREET, WEST BROM Modern Studio and 1 bed flats. Walking distance to town centre. Low rent / affordable deposit. DSS 35 + welcome. Call 07967 016425.

ROOMS & STUDIOS from £65pw inc most bills, no deposit, available immediately! 07884 185580.

TO RENT MODERN FOUR Bedroom detached house, Stafford Oaks, new decor and carpets throughout, garage plus drive, £800pcm. no DSS. 07971 560336.

overseas property

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

properties wanted

7 Jobs

courses

MTS HGV training, Willenhall. Minibus, 7.5 tonne C1 & car & trailer 01902 866510 / 07807 035066

drivers

HGV DRIVERS Class 1, 2, 3 and 7.5 wanted by established local general haulage company. Call for further details 0121 557 1776

PERTEMPS DRIVING DIVISION OPEN DAY
SATURDAY THE 16TH OF JULY - 8AM TO 12PM
VAN, 7.5TONNE, HGV2 AND HGV1 DRIVERS REQUIRED
WE ARE ABLE TO OFFER EITHER FULL TIME OR ODD DAYS WORK
PERTEMPS DRIVING DIVISION, 9-11 BULL STREET, RINGWAY, WEST BROMWICH, B70 6EU
PLEASE CALL EITHER KIRSTY OR AMY AT PERTEMPS ON 0121 500 5161 TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT

nursing & carers

20 HOME CARERS £7.20ph-£8ph ,Must have checkable work history,Car drivers preferred,Full and part-time hours available, West Bromwich,Cradley Heath,Tipton and Rowley Regis. Call Lee at Proline Care on 0121 687 8867.

full time - general

GENERAL ASSISTANT
require for
Double Glazing company
Oldbury, West Midlands.
To assist with installations, remedial work and general factory work.
Experience in the trade preferable, as would be a clean driving licence.
Minimum wage.
40 hour week
Please call 0121 544 2222.

JAMESON SEATING LTD
require an
UPHOLSTERY CUTTER
Must have experience within this roll and knowledge of Pattern matching.
Apply in Writing to
320 Cheapside, Digbeth, B'Ham B5 6AX
or email:
info@jamesonseating.co.uk

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY JOBSDAY
Every Thursday our special jobs section is packed with the week's latest vacancies.
Make sure you get your copy - it might be just what you've been waiting for.
jobs.expressandstar.com REAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU

EXPERIENCED
COMMERCIAL PAINT SPRAYER
Competitive rates of pay.
Call: 0121 553 4845 opt 2 for more details or email:
james@fredsmithandsons.co.uk

William King, a leading independent Metals Service Centre based in West Bromwich, is operating one of the most technically advanced units in Europe. We currently have the following excellent opportunities:

Machine Operators
We require machine operators to operate our slitting, blanking, or press blanking machines. Previous experience would be an advantage but is not essential. Individuals will be required to work on a shift system which may include nights. Previous applicants need not apply.
If you are interested in the position outlined above, please send your CV to Dipak Patel at William King Ltd, Atlas Centre, Union Road, West Bromwich. B70 9DR or e-mail to dipak.patel@williamking.co.uk. Call 0121 500 4111 for further details.
www.williamking.co.uk

ADMINISTRATION STAFF
must have experience in using Microsoft excel, duties to include filing paperwork, invoicing, job based in Walsall full time position
SKILLED GROUNDWORKER
must have utility experience with street works card, cscs card, mini digger ticket preferable, job full time based around the Midlands
SKILLED REINSTATER
must have experience in slab laying, kerb laying, Tarmac, utility reinstatement, cscs card required, ideal street works ticket and Hgv license, Job based around the midlands.
Contact 07912694158
indi@sindoc.co.uk

BEECHCROFT RESIDENTIAL HOME
Salop Drive, Oldbury B68 9AG
DAY & NIGHT CARE ASSISTANTS
Required to join our team caring for 50 elderly residents
NVQ 2 required, post subject to DBS check
Please collect application form from reception
Previous applicants need not apply

Phoenix primary care
PRACTICE RECEPTIONIST
Maternity Cover & Temporary
Salary - Dependant on experience
Hours- Up to 37.5 hours per wk
We deliver high quality care from 7 GP Practices in Walsall, North Birmingham.. Practices are open six days a week and provide services on two late evenings and on Saturday mornings.
Applicants applying for this post must demonstrate excellent customer care, written, Verbal communication and I.T Skills. Ideally we are looking for individuals with experience working in a General Practice environment.
If you are interested please forward your CV and covering letter to John Brett, Director of Operations & Performance, Phoenix Primary Care Limited, Collingwood Health Centre, Collingwood Drive, Great Barr, Birmingham, B43 7NF. Alternatively e-mail john.brett@walsall.nhs.uk
Closing Date 6/7/16

Leyletts Ltd. ENGINEERING CO.
SKILLED STEEL FABRICATOR
required with experience in working with medium to thick material. Good rates of pay, immediate start. Full time employment with overtime available.
West Bromwich area.
Telephone 0121 544 6669 or
Email: info@leyletts.co.uk

STORES PERSON / WAREHOUSE OPERATIVE
Full Time Position Tipton, West Midlands
Must have clean driving licence - Forklift licence an advantage but not essential as training can be given.
Daily machine maintenance tasks
Conduct physical inventories as required
Simple transaction movements - (Booking in and out of goods)
Immediate opportunity to join a thriving and expanding company.
Please send CV clearing demonstrating the experience required to
Email: sam.osman@techni.co.uk
NO AGENCIES PLEASE

Home Cash Buyer
Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish
£££ RENT BACK OPTIONS £££
Houses / Land Required
Ring Paul 24/7 Local 07870 341 089
Sandwell area: Call 0121 696 4154
Walsall & Cannock area: Call 01922 432049
Wolverhampton: Call 01902 489901
www.homecashbuyer.co.uk

EXPERIENCED MAINTENANCE FITTER colson
with an extensive background in preventive and corrective maintenance along with experience in mechanical fitting and maintenance also Power Presses, robots, CNC and air pressure systems (Ideally Multi-Skilled with Electrical background)
- 3-5 years" experience in a Heavy Engineering Maintenance/Process environment.
- Heavily involved in detailed preventive maintenance and mechanical fitting on heavy industry machinery.
- Condition Monitoring and measurement techniques on large process machinery
- Engineering Qualification or Degree educated in Mechanical/Electrical Engineering is preferable but not essential.
- Knowledge and use of CMMS systems
- Knowledge and understanding of planned maintenance and factory shutdowns.
- Compliant with high HSE standards within a fact paced engineering and manufacturing environment.
- Knowledge of site maintenance practices.
- Clear and concise communication skills with a strong character will be needed.
- A team player who is proactive in work, hands on, willing to listen and learn and self-motivated.

Interested: Please contact Emma Skitt - eskitt@colson-castors.co.uk
Closing date: Friday 1st July 2016

Warehouse Assistant
required by leading fastener company.
Duties include picking and packing orders, experience preferred but we are prepared to train suitable applicant with aptitude for figures.
Apply in writing to
Non Standard Socket Screw Limited, 360 Farm Street Hockley, Birmingham, B19 2TZ.

8 Motoring

cars over £1500

AUDI A4/TDI S/LINE, 2007, 90,000 miles, monza silver, abs, e/w, e/m, a/c, fsh, full leather, Sat Nav, very good condition, £6,400 ono. 07867 527265.

SELLING YOUR CAR?
We have a package to suit every budget.
Packages start from as little as
£21.00 for 6 nights
Plus
6 nights free if you do not sell.
CALL
01902 317878

CITROEN C4, 2008, 2 door, hatchback, 1.6 VTR petrol, blue, 36,000 miles, fsh, MoT, good condition. £2,695 ono. 07847 456061.

PEUGEOT 207SW 1.4 VTi. Nov 2010. 27,000 miles, MoT till Nov. FSH. Very good condition. £4,200. o.n.o. 07985 285335.

RANGE ROVER 4.6 LITRE 1996, one owner, lovely condition. £1,750 ono. 01922 479743.

RENAULT CLIO silver 2011, 38k, immaculate condition, lady owner, 12 months MoT, fsh, perfect first car. £2,950. 07722 051490.

TWO X VW BEETLES, both 1972, 1300cc £6,000, 1303cc £5,000. Both tax exempt, good condition. Telephone 07895 675997.

VAUXHALL ADAM 1.2 VVTi Glam, 3dr, 2013, one lady owner, panoramic sunroof, alloys, fsh, full MoT, £5,995. Call 07970 504111.

VAUXHALL ASTRA ESTATE 2012. Exclusive, CDTi, Eco Flex, 1.7, silver, full MoT. £5,250. 07836 568903.

VW POLO CL, PAS, 1.4, service history, silver, alloys, 2005, AC, very good condition. auto, 75k DVD / CD player, £2,795. 07448 487391.

VW TOURAN 2.0 TDi Sport, Ltd Edition, 62k, 1 owner, FSH, black, full leather, every extra, immaculate. £5,795. 07906 850160.

cars under £1500

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED
that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

CITROEN C4 VTR+, 2005, 79,000 miles, 3 door, grey, new MoT, fsh, cruise control, climate, air con, £950 ono. 07887 926424.

FIAT STYLO 1400, 2006. 4 new tyres, MoT May 2017, £525 ono. Telephone 07759 804772

FORD FOCUS 2.0, Ghia, 2000, 12 months MoT, £400 ono. 01785 509483.

HONDA JAZZ 1.4 Hatch, semi auto, silver, EW, AC, CD, alloys, CL, PAS, Honda FSH, 1 owner, 2011, 21k. £5,150 ono. 07448 487391.

PEUGEOT 106 1.1, 3dr, 51 reg, metallic green, 2 former keepers, MoT, ideal first car, only £395. 07984 141652.

SUZUKI WAGON R, 2003, 61,670 miles, silver, very good condition, low mileage, 12 months MoT, £950 ono. 07512 347004.

VAUXHALL ASTRA, 2003, 62,000 miles, silver, electric windows, a/c, MoT, central locking, pas, CD, £595 ono. 07894 535637.

VAUXHALL VECTRA CDTi, 120
diesel Estate car, 58 reg, 2008, MoT, good condition, new tyres and cat, needs attention to engine.
£495 ono.
01922 402979.

VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 04, 7 seater, full MoT, excellent condition, many new parts, £875 ono 0121 291 6635, 07936 102106.

VW BEETLE51 reg, 2.0, Auto, 6 months MoT, S/R, multi CD, black alloys, new cam belt, good condition. £1,200 ono. 07917 370054.

BMA Est. Here 25 Years
Quality Cars From £500
Full Mot's and Warranties
OPEN EVERY DAY
07956 988517
Dale Street, Bilston, WV14 7JY

classic cars

MGB ROADSTER 1976, 71,000 miles, one owner, 12 months MoT, lots spent. Call for details. £4,250 ono. 0121 526 4793.

driving tuition

Homer's
10 Hours £89! Five Hours £50! 2 Hours £20! All Areas Covered
ADI/PDI REQUIRED. Gift vouchers available for £10
07432 458100 / 01562 870050
01384 234954 / 0121 5640090
01902 580065 www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk

scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

MCB
TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS
Tel: 01902 408176
1000's of parts available at all times
MONMORE RD. WV1 2TZ

ABC AUTO SALVAGE
WANTED URGENT
Scrap & MOT Failures Best Prices Paid ELV Registered Spares Always Available
0121 557 0800 or 0121 557 0400. Evening 07813 184611 Oldbury Area.

vehicles wanted

A1 AUTOS WANTED
CARS, VANS, 4x4s, SCRAP, MoT FAILURES, ANY CONDITION £50-£10,000
WE BUY QUALITY USED CARS
07527 303 336
(24/7, any area) T&C Apply

CROWN MOTORS guarantee best price for your unwanted cars/vans. 07903 549849, 01902 597035.

ClassifiedAds

9 Local Information

public & legal notices

DOROTHY MAY BEESON (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 32 Comberford Court New Hall Place Wednesbury West Midlands WS10 9AE, who died on 12/04/2016, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 02/09/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

BACHES SOLICITORS LLP
Lombard House Cronehills Linkway
West Bromwich B70 7PL *T475209*

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to

Marie Hogg on 01902 713146
or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk

(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

10 Personals

general

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

personal

LADY SEEKING

ACQUAINTANCES WITH FEMALE PLUS MALE

70 plus with similar age to share interests, theatre, dance, travel, possible group.

Cannock/Lichfield area.

Please write:

Box Number P20399,

Express and Star,

Queen Street,

Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

sports clubs

CRESSWELL WANDERERS

U15'S 2016/2017 SEASON

(Year 10 September.)

Currently looking for 2 or 3 new experienced Players to help strengthen our current Squad for the coming Season.

If you are looking for a new challenge or just a new start contact Steve on 07837 489839.

HEATH HAYES FC

Are a Charter Standard Development Club who are looking for Players for next Season to strengthen our very successful Under 10's (current school year 4). The team train twice a week and have proven to be one of the best teams around.

Anyone interested in a trial contact Chris on 07949 514155.

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regeneration and Economy
Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015

I hereby give notice that Sandwell Council has received the following applications under the planning acts which it is required to give public notice for the reason given at the beginning of each group of applications.

This is a major application.

DC/16/59552	ESRG Developments Ltd	Former Sandwell College & Crocketts Lane Primary School Buildings & Land Crocketts Lane Smethwick	Proposed variation of condition no's: 4a, 4b, 6a, 6b, 6c, 9, 10a, 10b, 12a, 12b, 13a, 13b, 14a, 14b, 15a, 15b, 15c, 16a, 16b, 17a, 17b, 18, 19a, 19b, 20a, 20b, 21a, 21b, 22a, 22b, 23a, 23b, 23c, 23d, 24a, 24b, 25a, 25b, 26a, 26b, 28 following grant of planning permission (DC/15/58914) to enable development to be phased; amendment to the list of plans approved with the permission; deletion of condition no. 12; and discharge of condition no. 3a.

Members of the public may inspect copies of these applications at Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE

(between 8.00a.m. and 5.30p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9.00a.m. and 5.30p.m. Wednesday and 8.00a.m. to 5p.m. Friday) or via the Council's Public Access website (www.sandwell.gov.uk).

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications can do so via the website, or should write to the Council at the above address within 21 days (and 21 days for Listed Building or Conservation Area consent) of the date of this advertisement quoting the application reference number.

Mr Nick Bubalo, Area Director – Regeneration and Economy

highways england

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14(1)(a)
THE M5 MOTORWAY (JUNCTION 1 TO JUNCTION 2, SANDWELL)
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTION AND PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Highways England Company Limited (Company No. 9346363) has made an Order on the M5 Motorway, in the Metropolitan Borough of Sandwell, to allow bridge, telecommunication, resurfacing and general maintenance works to be carried out.

The effect of the Order will be to, at different times, -

1. impose a 40 miles per hour speed restriction on –
   a) the northbound and southbound carriageways of the M5 between a point 3 kilometres north of the centreline of the northern overbridge of the roundabout at Junction 1 to a point 4 kilometres south of the southern underbridge of the roundabout at Junction 2; and
   b) the slip roads leading to and from the M5 at Junctions 1 and 2;
2. close –
   a) the northbound carriageway of the M5 from its junction with the exit slip road at Junction 2, to its junction with the entry slip road at Junction 1;
   b) the southbound carriageway of the M5 from its junction with the exit slip road at Junction 1, to its junction with the entry slip road at Junction 2;
   c) the slip roads leading to and from the M5 at Junctions 1 and 2; and
   d) various lanes of the length of M5 described in (1)(a) above and allow traffic to run on the hard shoulder; and
3. prohibit vehicles with an overall width exceeding 2.75 metres from entering or proceeding in the outside lane of the lengths of M5 described in (1)(a) above.

The carriageway and slip road closures will be in operation overnight between 21:00 hours and 06:00 hours. The speed restriction, hard shoulder running and width restriction will be in operation twenty four hours a day for the duration of the work. The work is expected to start on Friday 1 July 2016 and continue for twenty five weeks. The Order will come into force on 24 June 2016.

Vehicles being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes will be exempt from the speed restriction and closures. Vehicles being used for special forces or traffic officer purposes and vehicles being used in connection with the works will be exempt from the closures.

Diversion routes via the A4123, A4034, A457 and A4168 and vice versa or via the M6 will be signed.

For further information please contact Alastair Warnes on 0300 470 3447.

Karen Eustace, an officer in Highways England Company Limited.

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LOVELY lady, inside and out, very caring, loving nature, likes music, days out, countryside, poetry, long walks, meals in and out, looking for a gentleman, 65-80. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422525**

ALISON, lonely shy blue eyed blonde, 46, just wanting to be loved, looking for caring man to pamper in return for mutual TLC. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422859**

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3000 Box 419673**

BARBARA, 44, friendly and outgoing but lonely, seeking similar lonely male to pamper, enjoy fun times and affection with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422839**

KIM, 32yrs, attractive blonde lady seeks discreet gent for daytime distractions. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3004 Box 421657**

MAUREEN, 38, pretty brunette, new to the area and very lonely, looking to meet someone understanding for convenient friendship, 30-60yrs. Can travel. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422815**

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. **Tel: No: 0906 515 3008 Box: 409715**

TINA, 43, young looking attractive single female looking for love, with similar lonely heart resorting to advertising in the hope of finding love. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421613**

KERRY, 35yrs, married in open relationship, attractive, tall, slim and very presentable. Seeks discreet gent any age for casual pleasurable encounters. **Tel: 0906 515 3040 Box 422363**

CILLA, 40, tall blue eyed size 12 brunette, loves horses, country/beach walks, cosy nights in front of fire, good wine/food, WLTM similar male who appreciates my interests. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422009**

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. **Tel: 0906 515 3016 Box: 413399**

MANDY 44, fun flirty blonde, petite size 6-8, gorgeous green eyes seeks special male for friendship and uncomplicated love. Age unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422863**

EMILY, mature well educated lady, blonde and smart and broadminded seeks gent any age for no strings fun. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3020 Box 421375**

GILL 61, slim dark eyed blonde seeks tall carefree male who is looking for someone special for fun times with no complications. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422843**

WENDY, mature, passionate ladylike divorcee seeks no strings casual friendship/fun with gent any age. **Tel: 0906 515 3032 Box 421605**

JACKIE 40, slim brunette, with sultry green eyes seeks tall guy with nice eyes who understands women, for some really good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422819**

JESS, pretty blonde lady. 29yrs, feminine and caring. Loves older mature men who are worldly wise. Looks unimportant must have GSOH. **Text Only Box: 4000683**

50YRS, old attractive lady. Sheila, caring honest, seeks discreet gent. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422469**

AFRICAN lady, 45 yrs, 5ft 8, slim, sensual, creative, interesting, looking for NSA fun with a man of means. Must be non-smoker. **Text only Mailbox: 5475056**

KATRIANA, professional sincere lady, 48yrs, loves to have a good time. Very sensual and loves men of all ages. Please text me for a chat. **Text Only Box 4148978**

RITA 41, exotic olive skinned female, friendly, chatty, loves to entertain, seeks loving honest male to pamper and make happy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422723**

ANNE, 40, pretty professional fun female with great curves, looking for fun and romance with down to earth male looking for similar. Any age/status. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422711**

PETRIANA, 44, very attractive, voluptuous blonde, with old-fashioned values, seeks romantic down to earth male for a special relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422717**

PASSIONATE,broadminded curvy lady 67 seeks very assertive discreet younger male 25-45 for no strings fun, looks unimportant. **Text only Mailbox: 5480845**

JULIE, petite, slim, attractive blonde young looking early 40's, enjoys wining, dining, theatre seeking good looking romantic male, 45-55, for mutual spoiling. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422709**

JACKIE, 49, dark hair, green eyes, cuddly build, likes going out, gym, reading, looking for an honest gentleman for friendship/possible relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422257**

LADY, 48, 5ft2, hazel eyes, brown hair, likes bowling, meals out, nights in, ice skating, looking for a toy boy, 30-42, who is fun and enjoys life to have a good time with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422679**

WIDOW, 5ft2, looking for a gentleman for friendship, days out, meals out and for friendship and companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422657**

JEAN, 75, black hair, hazel eyes, medium build, likes dancing, singing, gardening, bingo, meals out, days out, Scotland, WLTM a gentleman any age for company and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422651**

SARA 34yr old single mum looking for a genuine male to make me laugh again and help put the spark back into my life. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422541**

SARAH, brown hair, dark eyes, likes crafts, cooking, cinema, socialising, looking for a male friend, 30-35, possibly leading to relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422589**

JEAN, 75, lives in West Midlands, likes gardening, bingo, dancing, travelling, generally nice things, WLTM local gentleman for company and friendship, hoping to hear from you. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422571**

JOANNE, 48, curvy black female, likes cooking, cinema, socialising, seeking friendship leading to LTR, must be honest, romantic, caring and loyal and have a GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422633**

LUCY 37yrs 5ft 11ins brunette, loves nightlife, socialising, having fun, looking for fun guy who can make me laugh and promises a good time. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422455**

JO 45, hardworking nurse with crazy sense of humour, looking for fun male with plenty of ideas to spice up her spare time. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422545**

SARA 34yr old single mum looking for a genuine male to make me laugh again and help put the spark back into my life. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422541**

LORNA 28, sensual blue-eyed blonde with a beautiful smile, seeking intelligent guy in good shape for new experiences and fun loving. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422491**

MICHELLE, 37, pretty, very fit, well travelled seeks active, broadminded male to share new experiences and adventures with. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422459**

LORRAINE bored 36yr old looking for discreet no strings fun with likeminded uncomplicated male, any age/looks/status. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422241**

BIRMINGHAM female 65, smoker, likes music, cinema, theatre, meals out, WLTM male 66 - 73 for LTR. **Text only Mailbox: 5474599**

70 years young attractive caring genuine lady, seeks honest reliable man for friendship days out and poss LTR. Bristol/Bath area. **Text only Mailbox: 4648891**

PAT, petite blonde lady, GSOH, young looking for her age, seeks genuine gent any age with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422393**

RITA, , seeks a genuine male for friendship, days out, shes very friendly, genuine and social, give her a call ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422403**

MERRY, widow, dark hair, kind and caring, hoping to meet a kind gent for friendship, possibly more. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422339**

BARBARA, is a caring lady who seeks a man to care for, she will do anything to make you happy. Just give her a call today. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422411**

CARING, honest female, WLTM genuine gentleman for LTR in the West Midlands area. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422111**

Single Men

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

MALE, mid 60s, broadminded, WLTM female for intimate adult fun and pleasure, ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422557**

LIKEABLE easy going honest white male, slim build, likes sport, country walks, music, theatre, pubs, eating out WLTM attractive lady for friendship/relationship. **Text only Mailbox: 5489438**

JIMBO, friendly fun loving chap, 42yrs, own building company. Divorced, no kids. Wants a kind caring lady to spoil, any age, single mums welcome. **Text Only Box: 4036422**

GUY WLTM attractive smart lady, likes a dance or 2 and enjoys days out. **Text only Mailbox: 4823044**

MALE 57, tall, seeks mature female, 50-75, for close adult fun, any size or status. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422409**

MALE, 50s, tall, attractive, seeks mature female, 40-70, for mutual spanking. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422429**

RAY, late 50s, widow, 5ft10, average build, very sporty, broadminded, WLTM a nice lady, to go out, have a drink and see how we get on. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422789**

RAMONE, very fit, looking for a like minded lady, any age, for discreet adult fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422479**

ALAN, 49, genuine, builder, 6ft, six pack, GSOH, likes a laugh, lives in Coventry, wishes to meet a woman of any age for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422755**

VERY broadminded male, looking for some adult fun with a hot sexy female, any age, preferably broadminded too. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422823**

SEMI retired business man, early 60s, well travelled, fit, tanned, good looking, solvent, very discreet, WLTM a female, 35-55, married or single, for wining, dining daytime fun. West Midlands or Staffs. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422805**

JOE, semi retired, young looking and acting, slim and fit, 5ft8, considered good company, looking for daytime meets. Let's see if we click. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422803**

TALL, attractive, Shrewsbury male, 57, WLTM an attractive female, any age/status, for discreet daytime fun and excitement, ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422801**

MIKE, 50, tall, brown hair, happy go lucky and ready for anything, seeking a soul mate for good times ahead, West Midlands. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422799**

ATTRACTIVE Asian male, 42, likes music, travel, seeks attractive, Asian female, 30-45 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 361467**

MALE, 5ft9, medium build, likes sports, WLTM a lady for daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422747**

SINGLE male 50 medium build looking for someone to show me the ropes age between 60 – 85, txt only. **Text only Mailbox: 5423010**

42 yr old man seeking buxom, voluptuous, 50+ lady for naughty NSA fun. Colour, race etc unimportant. **Text only Mailbox: 5480459**

RETIRED stonemason, dark hair, 5ft10, likes meals out, pubs, hotels, WLTM a young lady, status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422673**

JOHN, WLTM a young lady, 18-23, for fun, go to hotels etc. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422671**

50 year old male 5ft 10, slim, many interests, WLTM female for possible relationship. **Text only Mailbox: 5484066**

MALE, 71, WLTM lady, 18-23, for fun and games. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422669**

47 year old guy, tall, dark hair, blue eyes, seeks female, 30-42, in the Leamington Spa/Rugby area, for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422637**

MATURE male, 50s, looking for a female, 30-60, for adult fun in the b47 area, text only. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422619**

SUGAR daddy, business man in North Birmingham, would love to spoil a slim woman, any race, children no problem. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422599**

50YR old slim, genuine male, seeks female, any age for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 279508**

WEST Midlands male, genuine, WLTM similar lady around 52 years old, so please get in touch. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422567**

YOURSELF, 55-70, unattached, want a sane society, love rock and roll, swimming, LTR? This guy 69, unattached, WLTM you. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422505**

ATTRACTIVE, mature Asian male, 42, likes music, travel, cooking, seeks attractive female, 30-50 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 358113**

JOE, 46, attractive male, GSOH, home/car owner, well travelled, seeking mature lady for friendship possibly more, all calls answered. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420665**

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Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, June 23, 2016

New ultimate Octavia vRS

By John Griffiths

WHEN Skoda's sporty Ocatvia vRS first hit the streets 15 years ago, it was seen as something of a a practical family saloon which hid its performance light under a bushel.

But that didn't last for long, when police forces up and down the country began using the discreet vRS as an unmarked, uncover car for bringing road-going offenders to book. It rapidly became something of a legend.

Now Britain is Skoda's number one market for the sporting marque, with a quarter of all Octavias sold here bearing the vRS badge on their bonnet. That still includes the blue light brigade, where the Skoda has to prove itself in performance, handling and braking tests against much more expensive cars before it can even be considered for recruitment.

Now, though, there's a new, ultimate Octavia vRS which doesn't only do the business but looks the part too, with some styling touches which set it apart.

Like its siblings in shares the same modifield platform and engine as its perhaps more famous cousin from parent company VW, the Golf GTI. But Skoda's engineers have turned up the wick on the 2.0 litre turbocharged engine, so that it now produces an extra 10PS (to 230PS) of power – hence its full name the Octavia vRS 230.

It also gets the sophisticated electronic differential system first seen in the SEAT Leon Cupra which, with its benefits from traction and sure handling, gave that car the fastest front wheel drive crown on the fast and twisting Nurburgring.

The vRS 230 official 0 to 62mph spring time is 6.7 seconds, only a tenth quicker than the standard 220PS vRS so you begin to see the significance of the electronic diff. That, plus a modified free-flowing sports exhaust and the modest power increase seem to have done wonders for the Octavia too: it completed the Nurburgring ten whole seconds faster than the standard vRS.

As for its looks, it's not just the vRS badging which sets the new flagship model apart: a gloss black finish on the grill, door mirrors and spoiler, 19-inch alloy wheels, and red brake calipers

Inside, it has red-stitched leather sports seats (heated and electrically adjustable, naturally), a leather-trimmed multi-function sports steering wheel and sports suspension.

Potential

There's also a performance mode selection feature: in other words press a button and you unleash the full potential of the 230PS under the bonnet.

That extra kit and performance put the price of the vRS 230 up by £2,500 to £26,580: hardly bargain basement, you might think, but compare that to the higher prices of the Golf GTI and other performance rivals and it begins to look better and better.

The Skoda's cabin is a pleasant place to be, with plenty rake and reach adjustment on the steering wheel and electrically adjustable seats for the driver to find his ideal position.

While the extra power does make a slight difference to performance, its the fact that this is a VW Group TSI (turbocharged) engine which really dictates the car's character, It endows the vRS with a hefty 350Nm of torque, all of which is available from just 1,500rpm. This gives it the feel of a bigger engine, with get up and go from the moment you touch the throttle, and responsive almost regardless of speed or gear.

But if you do stir the positive six-speed gearbox and press harder with your right foot, you're rewarded with a surge of acceleration and a pleasing growl from the sports exhaust.

This combination of relatively small engine and turbocharging has other benefits, too. If you drive with a little restraint and avoid going for the growl too often, you can achieve around 40mpg (the official average is 45.5mpg with CO2 emissions of 142g/km).

That's entirely reasonable for a full-sized family saloon with this performance potential.

The Octavia has proved its practicality and durability with familes, the emergency services and, of course, taxi drivers – I recently rode in one with 400,000 miles on the clock.

The vRS, of course, may have more go but it's basically the same car with room on board for five with a big boot – 590 litres, in fact, or up to 1,580 litres with the rear seats folded flat.

This new 230 version is, as you'd expect, one of the best equipped, too, with dual zone climate control (and separate outlets for those in the rear), an upmarket audio and connectivity system, touchscreen navigation, sunset glass and that sporty leather upholstery.

To complete the sporting theme, the multifunction trip computer even includes a lap timer: handy if you're planning a trip to the Nurburgring, no doubt.

There is a comprehensive range of safety equipment, from seven airbags to electronic wizardry such as traction, stability and brake enhance,ent systems, plus hill hold assist and cruise control.

The Octavia, along with its smaller sibling the Fabia hatchback, are the dynamic duo when it comes to driving Skoda forward to its 75,000 UK sales last year – although the much-praised new Superb is making headway too.

The new Octavia vRS 230 flagship will no doubt draw more attention to the Octavia range, which later this year will include a new Sport Line version: similarly equipped to a standard car but with sports styling to broaden the car's appeal.

SIMPLY CLEVER

ŠKODA

*To qualify for this offer you must be in receipt of the Higher Rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance, War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement, Enhanced Rate Mobility Component of Personal Independence Payment or Armed Forces Independence Payment (AFIP). Nil advance payment applies to ŠKODA Fabia Hatch S, SE and colour edition models (except SE 1.4 TDI Man and DSG at £95), ŠKODA Yeti S and SE models (2WD only), and all ŠKODA Octavia S Hatch models. Available with free metallic/special colour paint choices. ŠKODA Fabia Hatch shown is S 1.0 MPI 60PS. ŠKODA Octavia Hatch shown is S 1.6 TDI 110PS manual. ŠKODA Yeti shown is Outdoor SE L 1.2 TSI 110PS manual (from £95 advance payment) with metallic paint. Models shown are not UK specification. Prices and specifications are accurate at time of print. Offers may be varied or withdrawn at any time and are not available in conjunction with any other offer. Participating retailers only. Subject to availability. Valid for applications to Motability from 1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016.

Official fuel consumption for the three ŠKODA models (pictured above) in mpg (litres/100km): Urban 42.2 (6.7) to 64.2 (4.4); Extra Urban 58.9 (4.8) to 83.1 (3.4); Combined 51.4 (5.5) to 74.3 (3.8). CO_2 emissions for the ŠKODA range are 128 to 99 g/km. Standard EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. The advertised range is correct as of 1 April 2016 and is subject to change.

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Fantastic value for price tag

By John Griffiths

Given a choice, I suppose most of us would like to be driving a 200mph supercar, or a Hollywood star's limousine: but buying one (and running it) are a very different matter.

Instead we use our heads and go for the most practical form of transport to meet our own particular needs, within the limits of what we can afford (or want to pay for a car).

So as car prices soar, the entrance of Dacia into the showrooms of Britain and other European countries must have been greeted with a sigh of relief for those without a bottomless pit of money.

One of its most popular models is the Duster, which offers that styling plus space and practicality for the price of a small hatchback. With prices starting from under £9,500 (albeit for a no-frills, rather basic version), the Duster stands out from the crowd of compact SUVs for sheer value for money.

Indeed even the better-kitted versions, with all the features we take for granted and a bit more, cost less than many of its most basic rivals. The test car, for example, a diesel-powered Laureate model costs from under £14,000 even with the addition of the optional satnav and multi-media system, with remote controls on the steering wheel.

The Duster recently enjoyed a facelift, with some styling touches to add to its visual appeal. There's a new chrome grille, Duster branded roof bars, new, higher quality upholstery, and – in the case of the Laureate – body coloured door handles, 16-inch alloy wheels dark metal wing mirrors and chrome scuff plates front and rear.

The cheap look of the plastic interior components is broken up with a high gloss finish on areas such as the armrest and interior door handles. Not that plastic is necessarily a bad thing – just ask parents of young children and dog owners who want surfaces that are quick and easy to wipe.

The Duster seats four adults easily (five at a pinch) with plenty of head and leg room even in the back. The cargo space puts many compact SUV and family hatchback rivals to shame – 475 litres with a full complement of passengers, and an impressive 1,636 litres with rear seats folded down.

Complemented

The test car was a front wheel drive only model (four wheel drive adds £2,000 to the price) powered by a Renault-derived turbo diesel, producing 109bhp complemented by 260Nm of torque.

It's official (from the standard laboratory test) fuel average is 62.8mpg, which translates into a low CO2 emissions figiure of 115g/km (VED band C).

Laboratory test figures, as we know, rarely translate into real world results but I was happy with the 52mpg achieved over a week of mixed motoring.

The car has an Eco button, plus a selectable stop/start system, to help you eke out precious fuel. An insurance rating of 11A will help to keep running costs down too.

Performance (0 to 62mph in 11.8 seconds) is plenty to get you up to the motorway limit or keep up with everyday traffic, without feeling like hard work or undue noise. Indeed, cruising at speed is a relaxed and refined affair, particularly as the quite soft suspension flattens out the bumps and undulations on some of our poorer road surfaces,

While this is a front wheel drive only model, the car has a raised ride height, scuff plates, long travel suspension plus traction and stability controls which means it does have some limited off-road ability – certainly more than a standard hatchback, anyone.

The 4x4 versions also get a centre differential lock, where you can select two wheel drive for on- road economy, an auto option for slippery roads or a full lock mode for off-roading and snow.

The vehicle's height, plus suspension which is also used on the 4x4 models, means you can't expect the handling dynamics of a hot hatch but the Duster can be hustled along without excessive body roll. The steering is light and stable in the straight ahead position. The six-speed gearbox has a slick action, and the Duster's brakes are well up to the task.

The centre of the Laureate's dash features a touch screen control for the optional satnav plus the audio (radio and CD player) controls, phone and USB connectivity,

Standard Duster equipment includes from and side airbags, ABS with emergency brake assist, traction control and an electronic stability programme, electric front windows, and remote central locking.

The higher specification Laureate also has alloy wheels, satin chrome roof rails and scuff plates, manual air conditioning, a split/fold rear seat, electric windows all round, a height adjustable steering wheel front fog lights, a cruise control/speed limiter and a multi-function trip computer.

While the basic Duster at £9,500 and powered by a 1,600cc petrol engine, is the bargain basement the diesel-powered Laureate is the bargain.

Whichever way you look at it, the Duster is outstanding value for money.

The warranty covers you for three years or 60,000 miles but for £395 you can extend that for another two years, or for a one-off £850 you can have peace of mind for seven-years or 100,000 miles.

Sandwell Garages

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Nissan's oh so mighty GT-R roars back again

By Matt Joy

The mighty GT-R is back again, refreshed and with more significant changes than in any previous version.

Some things haven't changed, namely the fact the Nissan GT-R is a combination of brutish power and sophisticated electronics delivering spectacular driving thrills – at an impressive price.

But the R35 generation first appeared in 2007, and although there have been tweaks in the past, this 2017 model-year version brings the most comprehensive update so far. There are discreet, but worthwhile, changes to the exterior, including improved aero and sharper detailing, while inside, the fascia has been substantially revised to make it more comfortable and easier to use.

Under the skin there are a host of revisions including more power, revised suspension and a stiffer body for improved handling.

The basic shape of the GT-R remains broadly unchanged, although there has been a subtle change to the C-pillar to reduce turbulence. More obvious tweaks are made elsewhere, with the front end benefiting from a version of the Nissan family 'V-grille' and a re-profiled lower bumper. The same goes for the side skirts and rear valance which look sharper as well as managing airflow better, and the influence of the hottest Nismo GT-R model is clear to see.

There's some new colours too including a vibrant orange, plus a new alloy wheel design, all of which adds freshness. It is still unmistakably a GT-R and not a million miles from the previous generation, but this is the best-looking R35 to date.

More urgent changes were required in the cabin, and the 2017 GT-R is all the better for a new dashboard layout. There's a new display screen sitting up top while the climate controls have been grouped in their own space just below, as well as more sensibly-placed air vents.

Nissan also claims improved materials, and there's no doubt that the leather trim is of a better quality. The design is sensible and plain rather than eye-catching, but it works well and is easier to use. The bucket seats on the standard model are a little narrow across the back, but the Recaro model brings with it a pair of seats which are far superior in comfort and support.

The 2017 GT-R has an additional 20bhp compared to the outgoing model as well as a slight increase in torque, although more crucially maximum torque is available across more of the rev band. From the driver's seat, you might not notice this increase, just that the GT-R is a ferociously fast machine. With drive distributed between all four wheels depending on the grip available and the fast-shifting dual-clutch transmission, acceleration is always available and relentless with it.

The changes to the suspension and body are subtle too, but the upshot is that the 2017 GT-R feels more stable and more responsive, particularly on bumpy roads, and as a result is even easier to hustle along challenging roads. It's the combination of steering accuracy, the unflappable suspension (providing you've selected the right setting for the road) and the sheer balance and stability that makes it not only hugely capable, but also a joy to exploit on the open road.

Our time with the car included many laps of Spa-Francorchamps, one of the most thrilling and challenging tracks anywhere in the world and the GT-R mastered it in style. It's perhaps heavier and more comfortable than a typical track car, but it stood up to the extreme speeds and abuse as well as doing what it does best; flattering the driver without feeling artificial.

In the grand scheme of things, the GT-R remains a bargain. The 'entry-level' Pure model is a fiver under £80,000 but the reality is, cars with equivalent performance and spec will cost over £100,000. It's worth investing an extra £2,000 to get the Recaro model with its superior seats. Current GT-R owners are keen on having the latest thing, and the improvements to the 2017 version are enough to warrant a return visit. It might be more of a GT than ever, but in truth, the GT-R has the performance to qualify as a supercar, getting as close to 200mph as makes no difference and a 0-62mph time nudging three seconds dead. It's not the youngest kid on the block, but it's still a special car to drive, and now more easy to live with.

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Hot Civic Type R sets new lap times

By James Parker

Honda's 'race car for the road' Civic Type R has crisscrossed Europe in an effort to set new benchmarks for front wheel drive production cars at five legendary circuits across Europe.

Inspired by the Civic Type R which smashed the front wheel drive lap time at the Nürburgring Nordschleife in May 2014, the Honda team developed this European challenge to assert Type R as the leading front wheel drive performance hatchback.

The campaign started on a rain soaked day in April at Silverstone, the home of the British Grand Prix. Three-time British Touring Car Championship winner Matt Neal took the wheel to set a time of two minutes 44.45 seconds. Not content with this time, Matt and the team returned to the circuit later in the month to set a dry lap time of two minutes 31.85 seconds.

In early May, attention shifted to the iconic Spa-Francorchamps circuit in Belgium. The track, beloved by racers of all nationalities and featuring the famous Eau Rouge section, was taken on by Honda Racing new boy Rob Huff. Huff set a blistering time of two minutes 56.91 seconds.

With two attempts successfully completed, Italy's historic Monza circuit was the next target. Another member of Honda's WTCC squad, Hungary's Norbert Michelisz, took the wheel and piloted the car around the famous Parabolica to return a time of two minutes 15.16 seconds.

Momentum was building towards the final session at the Hungaroring, but first a trip to historic Estoril with Tiago Monteiro taking the reins on home turf. However, a nasty crash at the WTCC Race of Germany put the Honda ace out of action. Fellow Portuguese racer and WTCC safety car driver Bruno Correia was drafted in at 24 hours notice. With just one day in the car, Bruno posted a time of two minutes 4.08 seconds.

Finally, the team arrived at the last session in Hungary on June 6. The perfect driver for this mission was once again Norbert Michelisz, following his race win here in 2015 while racing a WTCC Civic Type R for independents Zengő Motorsport.

Over two days, Norbert pushed his production Type R to the limit to set a benchmark of two minutes 10.85 seconds and wrap up the five circuit effort.

Philip Ross, Senior Vice President of Honda Motor Europe, commented, "This challenge secures Civic Type R's position as the benchmark in the front wheel drive performance segment. With the support of our touring car stars, it is a fitting testament to the team who engineered and designed it as the ultimate race car for the road."

At its launch a year ago, the Honda Civic Type R represented the start of a new performance era for Honda; drawing on the brand's racing DNA to deliver the pinnacle of the Civic line-up.

A crucial part of a wave of next-generation vehicles from Honda – which will continue this summer with the launch of the all-new NSX – the Type R is a fundamental demonstration of the brand's pioneering approach to technological innovation.

The Civic Type R boasts a world-first application of Honda's new 2.0-litre VTEC TURBO engine, aggressive function-led styling, and pioneering new chassis technologies. Together, these features deliver one of the most immersive and rewarding driving experiences in any sector.

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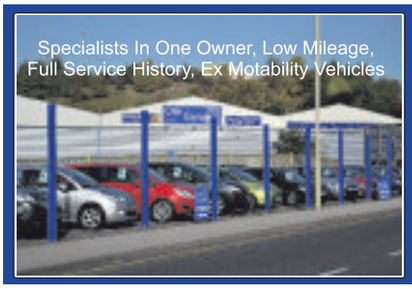

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Swift is moving swiftly

Suzuki says that global sales of Swift have now passed the five million mark, just eighteen months after the celebration of four million units.

First launched in the UK in May 2005, more than 118,000 Swifts have been sold and it is the most popular model in the range, accounting for 36 per cent of the UK sales mix.

Swift is a world strategic model that was first built in Japan in 2004 with production bases expanding the year after to Hungary, India and China. Production then commenced in Malaysia (2007), Pakistan (2009), Thailand (2012) and Vietnam in 2014. All European Swifts are made at Suzuki's established Magyar plant in Hungary.

Around the globe, 11 per cent of Swift sales are in Japan, around 50 per cent in India and 19 per cent across Europe. Swift is on sale in 140 countries and has won more than 70 awards.

In the UK, Swift is available in three and five door versions; it has a 1.2-litre petrol engine which emits 116g/km CO2 as well as a Dualjet engine equipped with twin fuel injectors that records just 99g/km of CO2 and offers even stronger fuel economy. Swift is also one of the safest cars in its class with a five star Euro NCAP rating as well as offering a low cost of ownership proposition.

Swift is available in five clearly defined specification grades which are SZ2, SZ3, SZ-L, SZ4 with 1.2-litre petrol engine and Sport with 1.6-litre engine.

All models offer seven airbags and ESP as standard, front passenger airbag deactivation facility, electric windows, remote central door locking with deadlocks, electrically adjustable and heated door mirrors, MP3 / WMA compatible CD tuner with USB port and steering wheel mounted audio controls.

It can also be specified with four wheel drive which offers added safety during the winter months, the 4x4 is available as a five door 1.2 Dualjet petrol model with manual transmission and equipped as either an SZ3 or SZ4 grade.

Thanks to the use of small and lightweight components Swift 4x4 is just 65kg heavier than an equivalent 2WD petrol model.

All Swift models except 4x4 and Sport are available with a 0 per cent PCP (Personal Contract Purchase) Finance offer until the end of June 2016.

Taking SZ3 three door as an example, a deposit of £2,411 is required followed by 42 monthly payments of £99 and a final payment of £3,680 to keep the car.

The three door Sport is available with an APR rate of 2.8 per cent on PCP for £169 per month payable over 48 months with a deposit of £1,639.

Tony Hedge, Jenny Hughes, Stewart Dudwell, Fizz Rimmer, Alan Hughes, Brian Haynes, Mike Clendon

Young club member Josh Dams, aged 16

Long-standing member Jenny Hughes with young member Josh

Alan and Jenny Hughes met at the tennis club 60 years ago

Couples court in tennis club's own love match

A WOLVERHAMPTON tennis club boasts a unique history of match-making – and they are now serving up plans for the future to ensure their legacy continues.

Formed in 1924 in Finchfield, Linden Lea's history is remarkable. They've survived a World War, redevelopment plans giving them just 12 months to relocate and the tough act of constantly bleeding new members into the club.

The club is set to open its first tennis academy at its impressive hub in the centre of Compton Park campus.

Chairman Alan Hughes has been married to fellow club member Jenny for 54 years. They met at the club more than 60 years ago.

Together, along with up to a dozen other lasting marriages the pair have seen the club peak as not just a tennis club, but also one of the most reputable social meeting points in the area.

Glorious

But for now Alan, aged 76, and 81-year-old Jenny are thrilled at the plans put in place to ensure the club has a rich future to match its glorious past.

The club certainly has facilities to attract new members having been re-housed 12 months ago to a new base – alongside Wolves' training ground in Compton – which was unveiled by Wolves' chief executive Jez Moxey.

"It's been fantastic to move onto the new site with the brick-built clubhouse and three floodlit courts," said Alan.

"We're on the Compton complex next to Wolves' training base and there are two schools there, St Peter's Collegiate and St Edmund's.

"There is Wolverhampton Girls' High School just down the road and also Wolverhampton Grammar School, with places like Smestow Academy also close.

"The Way Youth Zone in the city are also very keen to be involved.

"We want more youngsters at the club. At the moment we have about 60 senior members and 30 juniors.

"So we hope that the academy will help us with that and get more local kids involved."

Mike Clendon is chairman of the club, which boasts three men's teams competing in the South Staffs Tennis League, along with a women's team.

For their fresh academy unveiling, Hughes and Co are hoping that the brother and sister partnership of Dan and Sally Nicholson will prove a big attraction.

Sally arrives as official coach of the academy, while Dan – who coaches with Wombourne and Worfield tennis clubs, will also be helping out.

The club recently hosted a taster session open day for keen youngsters to come and practise their shots.

Alan continued: "We think there is tremendous potential for our club now.

"We have tried before to moderate success but there is real impetus with the new clubhouse and facilities. Last time we were on older courts, rather caught up on a building site.

"Dan and Sally's help will hopefully really get the academy off the deck.

"We're hoping to have a great relationship with the schools and the youth zone. I know Dan has already been St Peter's to give some sessions."

Driving up interest has not always been a concern for Linden Lea. Hughes explained the secret to long-lasting 'love' – was purely that the club was the place to be.

"In those days we were the centre of junior activity in the area," he said. "We actually had to limit the age that people were able to join at 22. There was even a waiting list!

"It wasn't just tennis. We would go to dances, do swimming – all different social things."

They would regularly hold jumble sales, and visit Swancote Swimming Pool, stopping off for a refreshing trip to the Cider House on the way home.

Weddings

"As youngsters do when they go to social clubs and spend a lot of time in one place – the young men and women got together," he added.

"There have been lots of weddings, my own included, and all of the partnerships saw a lifetime.

"Some have died now and some moved away, but we have a handful who remain social members and we get together every month.

"Neville Tarratt is 90 now and last year he helped us open the new base, he even gave a speech.

"Roger and Monica Wilkes remain part of our social club and Peter and Joyce Wakeman are still interested in the wellbeing of the club."

While the past remains a fairytale story, Alan is insistent that Linden Lea's latest initiatives will provide a bright future. "It's very easy to think of the past," he said. "But we've got to look forward."

SPORTING MEMORIES

By Lewis Cox

"We want more youngsters at the club. We hope the academy will help us with that and get more local kids involved."

Linden Lea Tennis Club's new set up, next to Wolves training ground at Compton

Spectators watch the tennis from the sidelines as members take to the court for a game

Sport

Courting couples net love match at city tennis club

Page 51

Albion shift their sights to Irish ace

ALBION are interested in tempting Norwich winger Robbie Brady back to the Premier League, as they resign themselves to missing out on team-mate Nathan Redmond.

Even though Southampton have just lost manager Ronald Koeman to Everton, the Saints are believed to be closing in on an £8m deal for Redmond.

The 22-year-old Englishman was one of Albion's top targets this summer, but now the club have shifted their attention to Irish international Brady.

However, the Baggies aren't the only club offering the 24-year-old a route back into the top tier, with both Leicester and Sunderland also courting the Canaries.

The Norfolk club are reportedly holding out for £12m, but Brady's future won't be decided until he returns home from Euro 2016.

Brady has emerged as a target after his versatility on the left-hand side impressed the coaching staff last season.

"I've had a full season in the Premier League so there's a fair idea of me there (already)," said Brady this week, responding to questions over his future.

The Baggies have also been linked with a move for Leicester striker Leonardo Ulloa, and reportedly sent scouts to monitor Enner Valencia's performance in Ecuador's 2-1 defeat to USA in the Copa America quarter-final.

Elsewhere, former loanee Sandro failed a medical at Sporting Lisbon a month after playing for the Baggies.

Albion had an option to buy the 27-year-old for £4m this summer following his loan spell at The Hawthorns, but the club turned down the offer from Queens Park Rangers. The Championship side then agreed to sell Sandro for £1.5m to Sporting, but his three-year deal fell through after a medical revealed a problem with his knee.

Cradley debutant Andrews ready to take on old team

NEW Cradley signing Richard Andrews is the missing link in the team – and he wants to put that right sooner rather than later.

Andrews will make his debut for the Motor Market side in their home meeting with his former club Eastbourne at Monmore Green on Monday.

He started the season with the Eagles before suffering a broken scaphoid on the opening day of the season – and he's taken longer than expected to recover.

But he was back on a bike at Somerset last Friday and is hoping for some more practice before Monday night.

Heathens have been struggling since Jack Kingston stood aside in May due to increasing pressure away from the sport with work. And Andrews said: "They've been struggling for points in the middle of their team and hopefully I can put that right for them. My first meeting is definitely going to be a strange one.

"I've been having a laugh with the Eastbourne fans on Facebook; they've been asking me to go easy on them but I'm a Cradley rider now and I want to get some race wins under my belt again."

Super Shaun has last 16 in his sights

DARTS

SHAUN Carroll's spirited runs in BDO competition continued with a jaunt to the last 16 of the darts England Open at the weekend.

Carroll couldn't replicate his march to the quarter-finals of the International Open the previous week after a 5-2 defeat to Garry Thompson, *writes Craig Birch*. But the Bloxwich darter again won his board after coming through Group Seven, where he won four games. Tournaments took place at the Bunn Leisure Centre in Selsey, West Sussex. Victories over Joe Paul and Mick Connerton were by 4-0 whitewash, before a 4-2 vanquishing of Aaron Turner set up the group final.

Brad Halls pushed him to a last leg decider but he prevailed 4-3, with the Thompson clash upgraded to a best-of-seven format.

Fellow West Midlands thrower Mark Craddock, from Cannock, also reached a board final in Group 32 but was beaten 4-2 by Dan Bradford.

Craddock had won three games to get far starting with a 4-3 result over Richard Stride, before 4-0 shut outs of Kevin Jacobs and Morris Hughes.

West Midlands county player Sam Hamilton got to the last 256 in Group Six, after drubbing Ron Pack 4-0. He was then dumped out 4-1 by Bradley Kirk. Country team-mate Sam Guest was eliminated after winning a game in Group One, 4-1 against Ian Bennison. Lee Turle then rolled over him 4-2.

There were first round exits for West Midlanders Chris Glover, Lewis Venes, Michael Baker, Matthew Dicken, Owen Maiden and Reece Colley.

Maiden also got to the Group Two final in the men's pairs competition, partnering Tyler Radlett. Their challenge was ended 3-0 by Dutch duo Wesley Harms and Richard Veenstra. Two-time world championship finalist Harms proved the difference with check outs of 160 and 170.

LEE LOOKS TO BATTLE BACK

TIPTON'S Lee Glover has no fear of failure as he attempts to rebuild his career starting with a fight at Walsall Town Hall next month.

The resilient 29-year-old appears on a Town Hall offering for the first time since November 2014 when he steps through the ropes on Saturday July 9.

'The Tipton Slasher' has always had the words 'no fear' written on his boxing shorts and that's appears to be his motto, writes Craig Birch.

Glover has twice been beaten for the English super featherweight title and was last stopped in two rounds by Leigh Wood for the Midlands feather crown.

Defeat against a yet to be decided opponent at the Town Hall will finish him off completely, but he insists he'll show everybody what he's got left.

He said: "I haven't boxed in the Black Country for a while, so I can't wait to be a part of a local show. I think the atmosphere will be buzzing. As long as I box to the best of my ability, I can't moan whatever the outcome is. I am fully ready to show up and give a good performance."

Glover has drawn on a line under his defeat to Wood, which came in front of a wide audience as it was a Matchroom show broadcast on Sky Sports. He said: "I struggled to make the weight. I had really bad weight problems and that is what I put it down to. I was trying to make nine stone and I was at that weight when I was 12!"

Halesowen's Lennox Clarke tops the Town Hall bill, with an opportunity to make it a dozen wins without reply. The super middleweight has raced to 11 victories, with four inside the distance. A whopping nine bouts will support the main event with the likes of Rob Hunt and Craig Morris set for action.

Former Midlands welterweight champion Hunt, from Stafford, will both the 30th bout of his decade-long pro career on the card.

Elsewhere, unbeaten middleweight Tom Stokes is targeting his seventh win after dropping and outpointing Luke Allon at the same venue in March. Stokes fights out of West Bromwich as does big heavyweight Matt Gordon and super featherweight Jack Summers, who both appear.

Tears as Graham moves on

Moving on – former Baggies ladies boss Graham Abercrombie and his assistant Nicky Gregg

Outgoing Albion Ladies manager Graham Abercrombie was reduced to tears when he told his double-winning team he was moving on from the club, writes Matt Wilson.

The 41-year-old, who was born and bred in Tipton, is moving to the east coast of the United States to join the non-profit Next Gen USA development programme, where he will head up the whole girls section.

Abercrombie has been manager of the Baggies team for the past two seasons and enjoyed unparalleled success in that time.

In his first season in charge he consolidated the team's position in the Northern Division of the Women's Premier League, before guiding them to an historic double in the season just gone. Not only did Albion win the County Cup, they were also crowned champions of the Northern Division, the joint third tier of women's football.

Unfortunately, the Baggies just missed out on promotion to Division Two of the Women's Super League when Southern Division champions Brighton defeated them 4-2 in a play-off.

After a such an emotional rollercoaster of a season, Abercrombie had one more tear-jerker to deliver. "Telling the team was horrendously difficult, it was like giving the worst tragic news," said Abercrombie. "Lots of people, me included, were streaming with tears."

Stoke at the front of pack to grab Saido

STOKE have begun the chase for Albion striker Saido Berahino – as the Baggies were linked with moves for Moussa Sissoko and Charlie Taylor.

Mark Hughes has identified Berahino as a key target this summer and, while there has been no bid at this stage, the Potters have been in touch regarding a potential move.

Last summer, Tottenham saw a £23million bid rejected for the forward while in January Newcastle had a £21 million offer turned down. Berahino's price tag has dropped since then, but it is believed Albion chairman Jeremy Peace will still hold out for a fee between £15million and £20m.

A move to the Potteries could now tempt the 22-year-old, who has seen his options limited with Newcastle being relegated and Spurs looking at other targets after qualifying for the Champions League.

A cash injection from the forward's sale could be used to fund moves for Newcastle midfielder Sissoko and Leeds defender Taylor.

Taylor won Leeds' player of the year award last season following a string of starring displays at left-back.

The 22-year-old has just one-year remaining on his contract at Elland Road with Liverpool and Stoke having been previously linked.

But the defender has also stated a desire to the play in the Premier League with the Yorkshire giants.

"Unless anything drastic happens, I'm sure I'll be here next season," Taylor said.

"I'm not thinking any other way.

"The dream is still to play in the Premier League with Leeds. I'm not just saying that."

Box-to-box midfielder Sissoko is currently part of the France squad competing at the European Championships.

Town-based TCR collect silverware

WEDNESBURY-BASED Total Control Racing won plenty of silverware over the weekend with podium finishes in both the Ginetta Junior Championship and Ginetta GT5 Challenge.

At Croft Circuit in North Yorkshire, Ian Robinson took his season's tally of 'Am' class wins to nine in rounds 12 and 13. He also claimed his maiden outright podium, with fellow amateur Dan Collinson managing to record a double class podium.

In Ginetta Junior, Dave Wooder, who is now fourth in the drivers' standings, raced to his seventh podium of the campaign during the weekend's third race.

★★★

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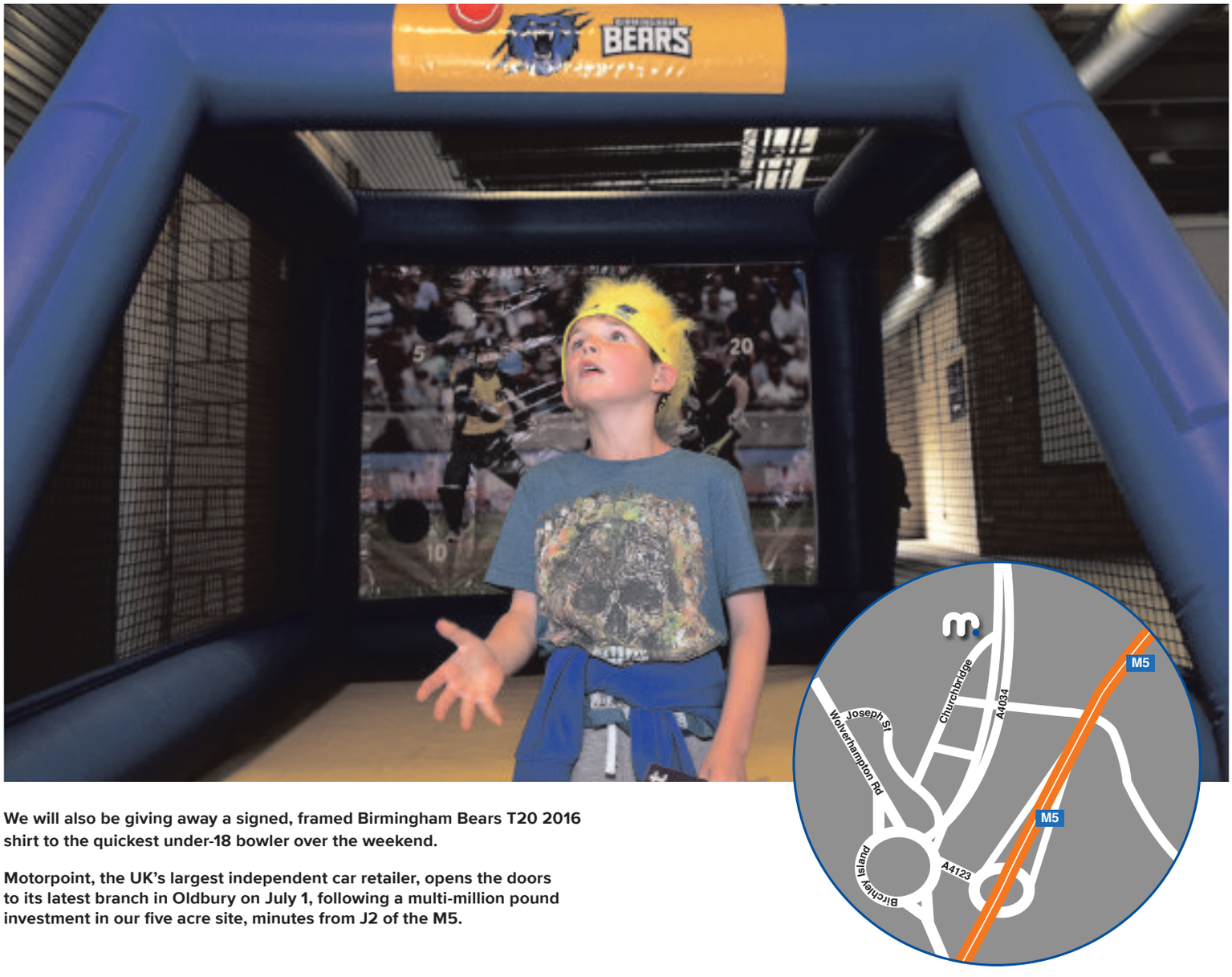
JOIN US THIS WEEKEND

To mark the official opening of our latest branch on Churchbridge in Oldbury, we are teaming up with Edgbaston Cricket club to give cricket fans a chance to try their arm at fast bowling and win a fabulous prize in the process with our very own 'Bowlathon'. Join us for a fun filled weekend, with free hot drinks while you take a look at over 500 cars on site at your leisure – and we entertain the family!

Simply pop down to the our new site at 100 Churchbridge between 10am and 4pm on Saturday, July 2 or 11am – 4pm on Sunday, July 3 and let fly with the cricket balls inside our 'Bowlathon'. Our team will be on hand to measure you're bowling speed with the fastest ball bowled over the weekend winning a prize. Plus, there will be a host of Birmingham Bears T20 players such as Sam Hain, Ateeq Javid and Chris Woakes on hand over both days to offer top tips as well as pose for photographs and sign autographs.



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